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BYLAWS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE
VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC. ("NAPVI")

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Amendment

Non-Profit



The State of Texas

SECRETARY OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF

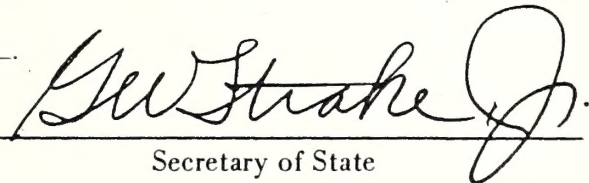
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF
THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

CHARTER NO. 509716-1

The undersigned, as Secretary of State of the State of Texas, hereby certifies that Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the above corporation duly signed and verified pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

ACCORDINGLY the undersigned, as such Secretary of State, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation and attaches hereto a copy of the Articles of Amendment.

Dated NOVEMBER 19, 1980


Secretary of State



Seal
Non-Profit



The State of Texas

SECRETARY OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

The undersigned, as Secretary of State of the State of Texas, hereby certifies that Articles of Incorporation for the above corporation duly signed and verified pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

ACCORDINGLY the undersigned, as such Secretary of State, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Incorporation and attaches hereto a copy of the Articles of Incorporation.

Dated MARCH 5, 1980

Bill Strake Jr.
Secretary of State



BY-LAWS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE
VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.
("NAPVI")

ARTICLE I OFFICES

The principal office of this organization and corporation, the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI), shall be located in the City of Austin, County of Travis. The NAPVI may have such other offices, either within or without the State of Texas, as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the organization may require from time to time.

The NAPVI shall have and continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office, and a registered agent whose office is identical with such registered office, as required by Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The registered office may be, but need not be, identical with the principal office in the State of Texas, and the address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. (General Powers) In accordance with the provisions of the NAPVI's articles of incorporation, the requirement of these bylaws, and such policies as might from time to time be duly prescribed by the organizations's voting membership, the affairs of this corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. Directors need not be residents of Texas.

Section 2. (Number, Tenure and Qualifications) The number of directors shall be eleven (11) and shall consist of an executive committee composed of the officers described in Article III of these bylaws, one representative from each of the six (6) distinct organizational regions of the United States recognized as an organizational region by the NAPVI, and one (1) member at large.

Individuals serving as directors by virtue of their election to the offices described in Article III of these bylaws shall serve as directors for terms concurrent with their service in the NAPVI offices described in Article III. Those directors representing the six NAPVI organizational regions and the director serving as a member at large shall serve a three (3) year term.

All individual directors serving as officers of the NAPVI shall be Class A members as defined in Article IV of these bylaws. All other members of the board shall be Class A members of the NAPVI.

In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Directors by reason

of death, incapacity, resignation, or abandonment, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the president, with approval of the board, for the duration of the unexpired term.

The president of the organization shall serve as chairman of its Board of Directors.

Section 3. (Regular Meetings) A regular annual meeting of the board of directors shall be held without other notice than this by-law during the first weekend of each November (unless a different date is established by the directors).

If such regular annual meeting is not held at the said time and place, then it may be held at a later date by resolution of the Board of Directors designating another time and place for such meeting. The Board of Directors may provide by resolution the time and place, at any place within any state of the United States or within any nation contiguous to the continental United States, for the holding of additional regular meetings of the Board without other notice than such resolution.

Section 4. (Special Meetings) Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the president or any four directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board may fix any place as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may also be held at any time and place by four fifths (4/5) consent in writing of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. (Notice) Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least thirty (30) days

previously thereto by written notice delivered personally or sent by mail or telegram to each director at his address as shown by the records of the organization. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed, with postage thereon prepaid. If notice is given by telegram, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when the telegram is delivered to the telegraph company.

Any director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objection to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purposes of, any regular or special meeting of the Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these bylaws.

Section 6. (Election) A Director shall be elected by mail ballot by the voting membership of their region preceding the annual meetings at which the terms of office of members of the Board of Directors are to become effective. A director at-large representing the entire membership shall be elected by the voting membership by mail ballot preceding the annual meeting at which the term of that office shall become effective. The initial board of directors shall first be designated in the NAPVI's Articles of Incorporation to serve on an interim basis until the membership of the first elective Board of Directors can be determined by the elective process established by the initial board of directors.

Section 7. (Quorum) Five or more members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors scheduled and held in accordance with these bylaws; but if less than a quorum of the directors are present at said meeting, a majority of the directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

Section 8. (Proxies of Absent Directors) A member of the Board of Directors who is unable to be in personal attendance at a regular or special meeting of the Board may, by written proxy, authorize a member of the Board who will be in attendance to act and vote in the place and stead of the absent member of the Board of Directors, but no member of the Board attending any meeting of the NAPVI's Board of Directors shall be allowed to act in the capacity of proxy for more than two (2) absent members of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. (Manner of Acting) The act of a majority of the directors present at a meeting for which a quorum exists shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these bylaws.

Section 10. (Compensation) Directors as such shall not receive any compensation for their services but may, if the resources of the organization allow, by resolution authorize their reimbursement for travel or other necessary out-of-pocket expenses occasioned by their services as directors. Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed to preclude any director from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving

compensation therefore.

Section 11. (Informal Action by Directors) Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the directors.

Section 12. (Meetings by Telephone Conference Calls) In urgent or emergency situations wherein it is not feasible, possible, or practical for the Board of Directors to assemble for a special meeting, binding action may be taken upon a vote cast as part of a meeting held via a telephone conference call involving a majority of the Board.

The secretary of the organization shall keep minutes or a taped recording of matters discussed and voted on during a meeting conducted by telephone conference call and shall cause this information to be distributed by mail to all members of the Board not less than ten (10) days next following the date on which a special meeting is held by telephone conference call.

Action voted or taken pursuant to a telephone conference call may be amended or rescinded only upon the written protest of six (6) members of the Board, expressed to the president within twenty (20) days next following the date of the meeting held by telephone conference call. In the absence of such written protest timely offered, the action voted or taken pursuant to the telephone conference call shall be deemed a final, official, and authorized act of the NAPVI.

The acceptance of any individual of a term on the Board of

Directors shall be deemed that individual's consent to the recording of any meeting held through a telephone conference call.

Section 13. (Recall) Removal of individual members of the Board of Directors may be initiated by a petition of ten per cent (10%) of the eligible Class A membership. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such petition the nominations committee will certify the petition and declare a recall election if required. A mail ballot election by eligible Class A Members will be held within thirty (30) days of certification. Removal from office will occur if two thirds (2/3) of the eligible voters cast ballots in favor of the recall.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section 1. (Officers) The officers of the NAPVI shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These four officers shall comprise the Executive Committee.

Section 2. (Election and Term of Office) Except for the initial officers who shall be elected by the initial Board of Directors, officers shall be elected by the voting membership of the NAPVI by mail ballot.

Officers elected by the voting membership of the NAPVI shall assume office at the termination of the annual meeting held in the odd numbered years and shall serve for a period of two years or until the next election. No individual may, however, occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 3. (Eligibility) Officers shall be elected from among individuals who are Class A members, as defined in Article IV of these bylaws, and who have served at least one year on the Board of Directors of the NAPVI.

Section 4. (Vacancies) A vacancy in any office because of death, incapacity, resignation, abandonment, or otherwise, may be filled by the President, with approval of the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 5. (Abandonment) In the event that any officer without good excuse or sufficient cause frequently and unreasonably fails to carry out responsibilities of office as defined in this Article III, or with frequency fails or refuses to

carry out his responsibilities as an officer and director, a majority of the Board of Directors may in its sound discretion declare the office of such individual abandoned and thereby vacated. Such determinations of abandonment shall, however, be subject to the voting membership's review. Recision by mail ballot within thirty (30) days of notification of the membership by written notice requires 10 per cent of those eligible to vote.

Section 6. (President) The President shall be the principal executive officer of the NAPVI, shall represent the organization before meetings or conferences, or hearings involving issues germane to the interests of visually impaired persons, shall serve as the chairman of the organization's Board of Directors, and shall in general supervise and control all of the business affairs of the NAPVI in the corporate capacity.

With the advice and consent of the other elected officers, the President shall be endowed with the authority and duty to appoint members of the standing committees required by these bylaws, and may from time to time constitute such special committees as might be deemed necessary or advisable.

The President may call such special meetings of the Board of Directors or of standing or special committees as might be deemed appropriate.

With the Secretary or any proper officer of the NAPVI authorized by the Board of Directors, the President may sign such grant applications, contracts, solicitations for donations, or other instruments which the Board of Directors has by specific or general action authorized to be executed, except in cases where

the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or these bylaws or by statute or governmental regulation to some other officer or agent of the NAPVI; and in general the President shall perform all duties incident to the office of president and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 7. (Vice President) In the absence of the president or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President.

The Vice President shall also perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the President or by the Board of Directors.

In the event that the office of president becomes vacant, the Vice President shall assume the office of President for the unexpired term and a new Vice President, meeting criteria of Article III, Section 3, shall be appointed by the President with approval of the Board.

Section 8. (Secretary) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the annual business meeting of the NAPVI membership, ensuring that same are properly maintained and bound in a good, orderly, and business-like manner.

The Secretary shall be responsible for organizational correspondence and shall ensure that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by

law.

In order that a full, complete, permanent, and central repository of all written materials to or from the NAPVI might be established and maintained, it shall be the duty of the secretary to forward to the organization's principal office a true and correct copy of each instrument, document, or letter forwarded to or by the NAPVI, including correspondence exchanged by officers and directors for or on behalf of the organization.

With the President or other proper officer or agent authorized by the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall sign such grant applications, contracts, solicitations for donations, or other instruments binding upon the NAPVI which the Board of Directors has by specific or general action authorized to be executed.

The secretary shall be the custodian of the NAPVI's corporate records and shall cause such records (whether as original copies or as true and correct duplicate originals) to be timely transferred to the individual assuming the next term of office as Secretary.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a register of the post office address of each officer and director, which post office address shall be furnished to the Secretary by each officer and director; and the Secretary shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as might from time to time be assigned by the President and the Board of Directors.

Section 9. (Treasurer) It shall be the duty of the

Treasurer to prepare and to distribute at least twenty (20) days prior to the regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors a recommended annual operating budget, for the Board's review and approval or revision.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining proper records of all funds raised and disbursed by the NAPVI, and for summarizing such records in true and correct reports to the Board of Directors and to the membership.

It shall be the responsibility of the treasurer to ensure that tax returns required of the NAPVI are appropriately prepared and timely submitted.

The treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds, securities, or other tangible assets (or instruments evidencing ownership of tangible assets) of the NAPVI; and shall receive and give receipts for moneys due and payable to the NAPVI from any source whatsoever, and shall deposit all monies in the name of the NAPVI in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Treasurer might determine appropriate or as the Board of Directors might by resolution decree; and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.

If required by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 10. (The Executive Committee) The Executive

Committee shall meet from time to time to develop the budget, make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding activities, policy, personnel, and other actions requiring approval of the Board of Directors in accordance with Article II Sections 11 or 12.

Section 11. (The Immediate Past President) The Immediate Past President, in good standing, will serve as ex-officio member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for one (1) full year, attending at the NAPVI's expense.

Section 12. (Delegation) At such time as when the resources of the NAPVI might allow the employment of paid staff, the Board of Directors may authorize the delegation to such employees of any duty or responsibility otherwise placed by these bylaws with elected officers, except responsibilities for the formulation of policy and the evaluation of organizational effectiveness in executing and carrying out established policies.

Section 13. (Recall) Removal of officers may be initiated by a petition of ten per cent (10%) of the eligible Class A membership. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such petition the nominations committee will certify the petition and declare a recall election if required. A mail ballot election will be held within thirty (30) days of certification. Removal from office will occur if two thirds (2/3) of the eligible voters cast ballots in favor of the recall.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. (Classes of Membership) The NAPVI shall have five (5) classes of membership:

(1) Class A - Family

Eligibility for Class A membership extends to any parent, guardian, custodian, brother or sister, or other individual having a similarly close interpersonal relationship with a visually impaired child or youth.

Once eligibility for Class A membership has been established, eligibility continues notwithstanding the death of, visual restoration of, or attainment of age of majority of the visually impaired child or youth.

(2) Class B -Community Groups and Agencies

Eligibility for Class B membership extends to any reputable and established parental group or organization having an interest in, affinity for, or basic responsibility to contribute toward the general accomplishments of the NAPVI's purposes, goals, and objectives.

(3) Class C - Associates

Eligibility for Class C membership extends to any

support person or paraprofessional or professional working within any field or acumen pertinent to visual disability, students preparing for entry into fields dealing with the problems incident to visual disability, lay persons or volunteers serving in any agency or organization of setting or initiative relevant to treatment or amelioration of problems inherent in visual disability, to concerned friends of visually impaired children or youth or of the families of or agencies serving such children or youth, and to other individuals situated in roles or capacities similar to the foregoing.

(4) Class E - Contributing

Eligibility for Class E membership extends to major facilities, professional organizations, the more substantial service agencies, the better established consumer or advocacy organizations, business organizations providing substantial and specialized services to persons with visual disabilities, governmental organizations of broad scope and responsibility, and other entities of individuals interested in and so situated as to contribute sustainingly to NAPVI's pursuit and accomplishment of its purposes, goals, and responsibilities.

There are three categories of Class E Membership i.e.:

- (a) Supportive;
- (b) Sponsoring; and

(c) Patron.

(5) Class F - Honorary

Eligibility for Class F membership is highly restricted. It is extended by action of the Board of Directors to professionals, public figures, or other individuals who have made an unusually exemplary contribution to the reduction of a particular problem peculiar to visual disability as a direct result of medical or scientific effort, other major and significantly successful research impacting beneficially upon persons with or programs serving individuals with visual disability, public policy or public awareness initiatives, or other exemplary and auspicious accomplishment or contribution redounding to the betterment of this field.

Section 2. (Annual Dues) The annual dues for the various classes of membership in the NAPVI are as follows:

(1) Class A - Family: Five dollars (\$5.00) per family, regardless of how many visually impaired children or youth within the family.

No family of any visually impaired child or youth will be denied Class A membership for financial reasons. Payment of this membership due will be waived by any family's simple written declaration of current fiscal inability to pay Class A membership dues, and all such declarations will be maintained in confidence.

(2) Community Groups and Agencies Fifteen dollars (\$15.00)

(3) Class C - Associate: Three dollars (\$3.00).

(4) Class E - Contributing: For each of the categories of Class E membership the annual dues will consist of an amount at least equivalent to the following:

(a) Supportive: Fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(b) Sponsoring: Two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

(c) Patron: One thousand dollars (\$1,000.00):

(5) Class F - Honorary: There is no annual membership due for Class F. membership. By reason of their contributions and achievements, those nominated for and designated to become honorary members of the NAPVI shall have previously paid their dues many times over in kind if not in cash.

Section 3. (Affiliates) The NAPVI shall have Affiliates in accordance with affiliation policies and procedures.

Section 4. (Voting of Membership) Each Class A member of the NAPVI shall be entitled to cast one written ballot in connection with issues or matters coming before the membership for a vote.

A Class A membership entitles the family to cast one ballot without regard to how many members there may be in the family maintaining such membership, and it shall be the responsibility of the family to determine and to advise which member of the family shall cast the ballot in behalf of its single Class A membership.

Membership Classes B, C, and E, involve no responsibilities with respect to voting. Class F members who otherwise meet the criteria for Class A membership may vote as Class A members.

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

Section 1. (Committees of Directors) The Board of Directors, by resolution adopted by a majority of the directors in office, may designate and appoint one or more committees, each of which shall consist of two or more directors, which committees, to the extent provided in such resolution, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the NAPVI within its corporate capacity; provided, however, that no such committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in reference to amending, altering or repealing the bylaws; electing, appointing or removing any member of any such committee or any director or officer of the NAPVI; amending the Articles of Incorporation; adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with another corporation; authorizing the sale, lease, exchange or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the organization; authorizing the voluntary dissolution of the organization or revoking the proceedings therefor; adopting a plan for the distribution of the assets of the organization; or amending, altering or repealing any resolution of the Board of Directors which by its terms provides that it shall not be amended, altered or repealed by such committee.

The designation and appointment of any committee and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors, or any individual director of any responsibility imposed upon it or him by law.

Section 2. (Standing Committees) The NAPVI shall have the following committees, each of which shall generally have and discharge those responsibilities indicated below:

(1) Executive Committee See Article III Section 10,

(2) Fund Raising Committee: This committee shall have the right and responsibility to raise funds at the direction and under the general supervision of the Board of Directors. This committee is authorized to receive donations becoming available to the NAPVI in consequence of the committee's efforts, transmitting such donations to the treasurer upon receipt. It shall be the duty of this committee to carry out on-going exploration of possibilities for raising funds through grants, contracts, bequests, and special fund raising efforts.

(3) Nominating Committee: This committee shall identify suitably qualified individuals to serve as the elected officers of the NAPVI, obtain the permission of such individuals to be offered as candidates for elective offices, and develop its recommended slate of candidates prior to the annual meeting of the membership. The Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers shall be distributed to all members of the NAPVI who are eligible to vote in elections and shall be distributed not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the date on which each election is held. This requirement for the dissemination for the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers may be discharged by publication in the NAPVI newsletter.

(4) Newsletter Committee: This committee shall be

responsible for compiling, printing, and distributing a newsletter that is consistent with the purposes of the NAPVI and that is compatible with the level of resources from time to time available.

(5) Publicity Committee: This committee shall be responsible for informing the general public, pertinent professional groups or associations, and organizations of allied affinity of the NAPVI, its purposes, fiscal and functional imperatives for the accomplishment of these purposes, and related matters.

(6) Membership Committee: This committee shall assist in the formulation of strategies and methods for acquiring new members and parent groups, in executing such strategies, and in implementing such methods.

(7) Program Services Committee: The function of this committee shall be to assist the Board of Directors in carrying out processes and methodologies for the sharing of experiences and the exchange of information useful to the parents of visually impaired children or youth.

Section 3. (Special Committees) Other committees not having or exercising the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the NAPVI in its corporate capacity may from time to time be designated and constituted by the president of the Board of Directors. Members of special committees normally will be members of the NAPVI, but organizational membership shall not be deemed a prerequisite to appointment and service on the special committee.

Special committees may be designated by names such as

"Advisory Committee", "Advisory Board", and "Ad Hoc Commission", or related titles which are functionally descriptive.

Section 4. (Removal) Any member of either a regular or special committee may be removed by the person or persons authorized to appoint such member whenever, in their judgement, the best interests of the NAPVI shall be served by such removal.

Section 5. (Term of Office) Each member of a standing committee serves a term of office which becomes effective upon appointment and which expires at the annual meeting of the membership or, if replacements are not named at the annual meeting of the membership, at such time as when a replacement is announced. Members of standing committees are eligible for reappointment without regard to number of terms of office previously served.

Each member of a special committee shall serve for such term of office as might be indicated at the time of appointment, or until the purposes of the special committee have been performed and the special committee dissolved, or until a successor is appointed. The terms of office for members of special committees, which may be staggered, shall not exceed two years in length, but members of special committees shall be eligible for reappointment without regard to number of terms previously served.

Section 6. (Chairman) One member of each committee shall be appointed chairman by the person or persons authorized to appoint the members thereof.

Section 7. (Vacancies) Vacancies in the membership of any committee may be filled by appointments made in the same manner as

provided in the case of the original appointments.

Section 8. (Quorum) Unless otherwise provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors or in the announcement of the president designating a committee, a majority of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum, and the act of a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the committee.

Section 9. (Rules) Each committee may (without being so required) adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with these bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. (Time and Place of Annual Meetings) The annual meeting of the membership of the NAPVI shall be held at a place and on a date determined by the Board of Directors. Such meeting will normally be held during the first weekend in November, at a place and on a date to be determined by the Board at least one year in advance. If the logistics of carrying out the annual meeting of an organization of national scope reasonably require that the annual meeting not be held during the first weekend in November, or if unforeseen contingencies render it impossible or highly inadvisable to conduct the annual meeting at the place or on the date previously scheduled by the Board, the annual meeting shall be conducted on a date as near the first weekend of November as possible and at a place reasonably convenient to a majority of those members of the organization who have made timely payment of their membership dues.

Section 2. (Conduct of Proceedings) Unless otherwise required by the articles of incorporation or by these bylaws, all regular and special meetings of the NAPVI shall be conducted pursuant to an approved agenda and in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order as last revised.

ARTICLE VII. REGIONS

Section 1. (Number and Boundaries) The NAPVI shall initially have six (6) distinct regions. For purposes of convenience, the initial boundaries of these regions shall be identical with the boundaries of the American Foundation for the Blind's regional offices.** Following the first annual membership meeting of the NAPVI, the NAPVI's geographical regions shall be of such numbers and shall consist of such number and boundaries as the Board of Directors may from time to time by resolution establish or as the membership at its annual meeting decree.

Section 2. (Representation of Regions) It shall be the responsibility of the NAPVI voting membership within each of the NAPVI regions to determine by free and fair election conducted by mail ballot of the regional voting members WHO from among its members will represent that region on the NAPVI Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall certify the name of such individual to the NAPVI's membership.

If the individual elected by a region to a position on the NAPVI's Board of Directors deceases, becomes incapacitated, moves outside of the region, resigns, or otherwise becomes unable, disqualified, or refusing to serve, the Board of Directors may designate a replacement until such time as when NAPVI members from within the region have had an opportunity by free and fair election to designate a replacement and to certify such designation to the president and secretary.

ARTICLE VIII. CONTRACTS, CHECKS,
DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

Section 1. (Contracts) The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation, in addition to the officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or to execute and deliver any instrument in the behalf of the organization, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. (Checks, Drafts, etc.) All checks, drafts or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of NAPVI shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the organization and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by and direction from the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the treasurer and countersigned by the president or the vice president of the NAPVI.

Section 3. (Deposits) All funds of the NAPVI shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the organization in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select or, in the absence of such selection and direction from the Board, in such depositories as the treasurer may select.

Section 4. (Gifts) The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the NAPVI any contributions, gift, bequest or devise for

the general purposes or any special purpose of the organization, or for any special purpose designated by a donor.

Section 5. (Agreements) In carrying out and pursuing the NAPVI's purposes, the Board of Directors may enter into contracts or agreements with the Bureau for Education of the Handicapped, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, the National Institute of Health, the Social Security Administration, the Administration for Children, Youth and Families, the Office for Civil Rights, the American Printing House for the Blind, the National Center on Educational Media and Materials for the Handicapped, the Public Health Service, or any other constituent unit of the Federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (or its successor in any function); with counterpart state and regional agencies; and with private agencies carrying out functions, services, or other activities congruent with those performed by federal agencies such as the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the United State Department of Labor, the United State Commission on Civil Rights, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Transportation, the Library of Congress, and the United States Department of Agriculture for and in behalf of vulnerable and/or disadvantaged special populations.

ARTICLE IX. FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. (Tax Year) Unless and until otherwise altered by resolution of the Board of Directors or by vote of the membership at an annual meeting, the fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day of August in each year.

Section 2. (Membership Year) Unless until otherwise determined by the Board of Directors or the membership, annual membership in the NAPVI shall be on a calendar year basis.

Section 3. (Budget Period) The fiscal year, tax year, and annual budget period of the NAPVI shall be identical, which is to say September 1 through August 31 of each consecutive twelve-month period of time.

ARTICLE X SEAL

Section 1. (Responsibility) At such time as when the resources of the NAPVI might reasonably permit, the Board of Directors shall provide, and the secretary shall procure a corporate seal.

Section 2. (Contents) The corporate seal of the organization shall consist of a circle, the NAPVI's logo, the words "Corporate Seal", and such other matter as the board of directors might determine appropriate and might approve.

ARTICLE XI WAIVER OF NOTICE

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act of Texas or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or the bylaws of the NAPVI, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICAL XII. PURPOSES

Section 1. (Nature) The NAPVI shall perpetually be maintained and operated for the purposes which are clearly and unequivocally related to charitable, educational, scientific, and literary purposes and to the prevention of cruelty to children.

Section 2. (Specific) The specific organizational purposes of the NAPVI shall always be identical to those set out in Article Four of the NAPVI's Articles of Incorporation.

Section 3. (Amendment of Purposes) There shall be no amendment, alteration, or redirection of the organizational purposes of the NAPVI except through due and proper amendment of the NAPVI's Articles of Incorporation.

No amendment of the NAPVI's Articles of Incorporation shall be considered, recommended, pursued, or approved until the Board of Directors has first satisfied itself that the proposed amendment will in no manner jeopardize or otherwise affect the organizations's eligibility for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) and any other pertinent sections of the Internal Revenue Code.

If any member of the Board of Directors feels that a proposed amendment or other change in the organizational purposes of the NAPVI might affect the tax-exempt status of the organization, no action shall be taken until after a written memorandum of opinion is obtained from a well qualified attorney or certified public accountant and action to amend the purposes of the NAPVI as

presently described in Article Four of the Articles of Incorporation shall be initiated only if the authority consulted indicates in the written memorandum of opinion that tax-exempt status will not be jeopardized.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. (Contingent Distribution of Assets) In event of the dissolution of the NAPVI as a corporate entity, or in the event that the NAPVI shall cease to carry out the objects and purposes set forth in its Articles of Incorporation and in these bylaws, all assets remaining after the payment of debts shall be paid over to an organization which itself is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2. (Prohibition Against Personal Gain or Benefit)
Under no circumstances shall any of the property and assets of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. during the existence and/or upon the dissolution thereof go and be distributed to any promoter, officer, individual member, or subsidiary of the corporation.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

Section 1. (By Directors) If clear and compelling necessity seems to require, these bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted by a majority of the Directors present at any regular or at any special meetings; and for purposes of the Article and Section, the Board is authorized to conduct special meeting by telephone conference call or by mail.

In the event of amendment of these bylaws by the Directors, notice of amendment, together with a detailed explanation as to the necessity and intended effect of the amendments, shall be provided to the full membership no less than twenty (20) days next following the effective date of the amendments to the bylaws, and such written notice shall also contain a listing of members of the board of directors voting for and against the amendments.

Amendments so made shall be effective until the next annual meeting of the NAPVI membership, at which time the amendments shall either be ratified or rescinded by the membership, but actions taken pursuant to the amendments shall be deemed lawful acts of the NAPVI until such time as when the membership might by simple majority vote by mail ballot of the NAPVI membership disclaim or disavow amendment to these bylaws made by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. (By Members) Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by the written request of any member unit of a NAPVI

region, or by any voting member within a NAPVI region, forwarded to the Board of Directors via the NAPVI's secretary.

Such proposed amendment shall be presented at least thirty (30) days before a meeting of the Board to the NAPVI secretary for review by the Board, who shall consider such proposed amendments and note in the minutes of its meeting the action, if any, recommended by the Board of Directors.

Within sixty (60) days of the Board meeting, the amendments shall be distributed to all of the members for a vote and shall be returned by the members to the secretary within thirty (30) days. Amendments to these bylaws so initiated shall be immediately effective, if favorably approved by at least two-thirds ($2/3$) of those responding to the notice and ballot invitations and if such two-thirds ($2/3$) vote in favor of the proposed amendment amounts to at least twenty percent (20%) of the total membership eligible to cast a vote. If not approved by a two-thirds ($2/3$) favorable vote of persons representing the total membership eligible to vote the proposed amendments shall not be effective, but shall be scheduled as an agenda item to be voted on again before the next annual membership meeting of the NAPVI.

ARTICLE XV. EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 1. (Interim) These bylaws become effective upon distribution to and approval of the NAPVI's initial Board of Directors designated as such in the NAPVI's Articles of Incorporation.

Section 2. (Permanent) These bylaws become final and permanent, with or without amendment or modification, following reproduction, distribution to all members, consideration by the voting members of the first annual membership meeting, and action thereon by those voting members in attendance at the first annual meeting of the membership.

ARTICLE XVI. LIMITATIONS UPON POWERS AND
ACTIVITIES

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, trustees, executive committee, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Four of the Articles of Incorporation. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the corporation shall not carry on any other provisions not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

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MINUTES

AFB National Ad Hoc Committee of Parents of Visually Handicapped Children and Youth St. Louis, Missouri, May 10 and 11, 1979

Prepared by Jessamine Cobb, Regional Consultant

Thursday May 10, 1979

Following a welcome by William Gallagher, AFB Associate Director of Advocacy, Dr. Susan Spungin opened the meeting reviewing the state of the art with regard to services for visually handicapped children. She cited the need for more teachers, trained in the education of the visually handicapped, to serve the estimated one per thousand school age children, with severe visual impairment, according to HEW statistics. The 27 university training programs for teachers of the visually handicapped now turn out about 300 new teachers a year, and the need is for 6,000. Dr. Spungin told of AFB taking the initiative to bring together the state vision consultants; as the result, they have organized to meet together regularly.

As mandatory education came into being, under PL 94-142, the Education of All Handicapped Act of 1975, handicapped children were required to have psychological testing, and psychologists were not equipped to do this for the visually impaired and blind. So the AFB sponsored a series of 5 workshops for psychologists to assist them to adapt a battery of psychological tests for this special pupil population. AFB has now received a three year grant to conduct 18 similar workshops for school psychologists. In addition, the Foundation recently published "Guidelines for Administering Services for the Visually Handicapped in Public Schools."

The AFB film, "NO TWO ALIKE" and a series of slides are now ready to be used with special audiences such as parents, school administrators, classroom teachers, physical education teachers, school psychologists, and there is one slide film on sighted guide technique.

Residential schools report dropping enrollments, and a position paper has been prepared by AFB which cites the future role of the residential school.

In the discussion which followed, we identified some of the needs of pre-school visually handicapped children and some of the problems in sustaining interest of parents in a parents' group, i.e. when children reach 16-17 years of age, parents' interest in parent group activities drops off.

It was agreed that parents of visually handicapped children have a sense of isolation; they don't know where to turn for help, and they need support of others, like themselves, against the "system".

The group identified the "factions" within parents' groups, i.e. the parents with a child who is cerebral palsied and blind vs the parents of a child whose only disability is blindness. Then there are parents who have institutionalized their child and those who have kept the child at home, i.e. residential placement vs mainstreaming.

Other factions are the parents of low vision children, of totally blind and/or blind and multi-handicapped.

It was the consensus that the common tie that makes parent groups work is the basic service element. Parents who have "been thru the mill" need to be convinced that they have something to share that is important to other parents who are struggling to solve with similar problems.

Something tangible is needed to keep parents' groups active, and a newsletter is one way to achieve this goal. A newsletter can be a source of useful information and provide psychological support so that the parent does not feel so alone.

It was recognized that some parents are fearful of fighting the establishment and feel that they are supposed to go along with the IEP, for example, even if they know it isn't fair to their child. Many persons in minority and non-English speaking groups are cautious about confronting "the system" or aligning with others to bring about change. This is an area where much will need to be done to assure representation from these segments of the population.

The group identified some of the problems about which parents' concern should be ripe for organizing. They are: the lack of funds for special services for visually handicapped children in the public schools, i.e. pre-school services and orientation and mobility, etc. Another problem is that there are not enough special education teachers in resource rooms or on an itinerant basis, and good teachers are quitting the system because they can't make a decent living.

It was agreed that education is a continuing process, and that it should consist of what will make the child more competent in meeting life's expectations. The life style of visually impaired children will differ, depending on the degree of the handicap. These differences will need to be dealt with if all parents are to be united and work together for the good of all.

On the basis of this discussion, the group came to the conclusion that there is a need for some sort of national parents' organization.

The group broke into three sub groups to work out statements of:
1. purpose 2. structure and 3. future - what will be the outcome?
They reported the following day.

Friday May 11, 1979

When we reconvened the following day, we discussed the name of the new organization and decided upon: ~~The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired and Blind.~~

Each sub group made its report, and the sub group reports were further refined by the entire committee. The first sub group recommended three sections on Purpose:

1. To provide ^{impaired} support for parents and families of all visually ~~handicapped~~ children and youth by identifying state and national resources, providing information about and referral to ~~these~~ resources, and encouraging the development of similar services at state and local levels.
2. To educate ^{and} and/or inform professional service providers and the ~~general public~~ about the needs of visually impaired and blind children and youth.
3. To advocate improved services for all visually impaired and blind children by providing information to parents about how to exercise the civil, educational and vocational rights of their children. To provide for the needs of the members of this organization and their children, in cooperation with professional agencies, organizations and groups, including the legislature, as appropriate.

The sub group on Structure recommended a Board of Directors of 12 persons. There would be two representatives from each of the six AFB regions. (This Structure is based on the assumption that the AFB would be assisting initially with staffing and that the Regional Consultants would have a role in getting the organization started).

The officers would be a chairman and a secretary-treasurer. A source for initial funding could be parent groups now in existence. It was agreed that the Structure will need to be flexible at first.

Dr. Spungin had a list of other national associations of representatives of special populations, and it was suggested that we look into how they are structured, operate and are funded. Assignments were made to members of the Committee to make contact with the various special groups listed by Dr. Spungin and report back at the next meeting.

It was suggested that the Committee should do something now to find out what other parents' groups, not represented at this meeting, think about the formation of a national association. A questionnaire for this purpose was discussed.

A list of 10 questions was developed for consideration by the Committee, and these will be sent out with the minutes of this meeting.

Suggested Questionnaire Format
Questions Listed at Random

1. Are you interested in a national parents' organization? Yes _____ No _____
2. What kind of information would you want to gain from association with such an organization?
3. Are you now a member of a parent group? Yes _____ No _____
Or do you know of such a group in your area? Yes _____ No _____
4. Would you like a national newsletter for parents of visually impaired and blind children? Yes _____ No _____
5. Please provide information about your visually impaired or blind child(ren).

Ages _____ Sex _____ Disability(ies) _____

Are there other siblings and, if so, give ages and sex.

Siblings' age _____ Sex _____

6. What kind of community do you live in?
(Check) Metropolitan _____
Inner City _____
Suburban _____
Rural _____
7. What kind of special services is your child now receiving? (Check)
Social services _____
Medical services _____
Educational services: _____
Community School? _____
Residential School? _____
Recreational services _____
Other _____
8. What kind of services does your child need which he is not now receiving? (List services needed)
9. Are there other visually impaired or blind children in your community? Yes _____ No _____
If so, how many? (Estimate number) _____
10. Are you yourself visually impaired or blind? Yes _____ No _____

The final report was given by the sub group on Future. This group listed the following long-range roles for the national parents' organization. The list is not in order of priority.

- functions*
1. Continuously up-date information so that data can be current and readily available.
 2. Evaluate purpose and goals on an on-going basis.
 3. Publish a newsletter. Emphasis should be on legislation and sources of funding, as well as on human interest accomplishments, which will be supportive to parents nationwide.
 4. Sponsor a child and/or set up scholarships for future teachers of the visually impaired.
 5. Develop public education materials for doctors, nurses, other professionals and civic and public organizations. These could be distributed by local parents' groups.
 6. Provide education in the legislative process for parents so they can take effective action.
 7. Provide a political base for united action on legislation and be a watch dog on behalf of special interests.
 8. Set up a recruitment program for teachers of the visually impaired, rehabilitation teachers and counselors to fill the needs of the schools and agencies in cooperation with established university professional training programs.
 9. Provide speakers for career days and for civic and public organizations to improve local, educational and recreational opportunities for our children.

In the discussion which followed, a number of assignments to gather information were made and the following matters were agreed upon:

1. The AFB should continue to be the catalyst in getting the National Parents Association underway, until such time as matters of organization and funding can be worked out.
2. Lee Robinson agreed to serve as the Committee's contact person and asked that members of the Committee report back to him on the assignments they agreed to accept.
3. Mike Katskee, Lee Robinson and Dr. Spungin will check out sources for funding for the national association, and Mrs. Laura Fiol will put together some ideas for a newsletter.
4. The suggested questionnaire will be mailed to the Committee with the minutes for their review. Changes and revisions will be made based on the Committee's recommendations.

5. The AFB will mail out the questionnaire to the list of parent groups which Dr. Spungin has put together. Hopefully, this can be done so that the questionnaire can be back by early September in order to be tabulated for a meeting of the Committee in October. Members of the Committee will make personal contacts with other parent groups to encourage returning of the questionnaire.
6. It was recommended that the next meeting of the Committee be on a Friday and Saturday in mid-October. At this meeting, we will review a draft of structure and the results of the questionnaire; Committee members will make their reports. The purpose of this meeting will be to move ahead with next steps in the organizational process.

Dr. Spungin told of the forthcoming Helen Keller Centennial in Boston June 23-28, 1980. The Committee unanimously agreed that the national association will be ready to be a sponsoring organization, and Dr. Spungin will take steps to see that this is done.

MINUTES

AFB NATIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE OF PARENTS OF VISUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND YOUTH

New Orleans, Louisiana

November 16-17, 1979

PERSON REPORTING: Susan Jay Spungin, Ed.D., National Consultant in Education.

Friday, November 16, 1979:

Following a welcome by Dr. Susan Jay Spungin, National Consultant in Education, Sam Negrin, Director of the Field Services Department, opened the meeting, reviewing the role of the Field Services Department and some of the projects that it is actively involved with.

Mr. William Gallagher, Associate Director for Advocacy, then went on to describe the various activities of the entire American Foundation for the Blind, specifically, as it relates to the role and purpose of his Division on Advocacy. He concluded his remarks with a discussion about the Helen Keller Congress and the many exciting events to take place there.

Dr. Spungin went on to report the findings of the survey of parents taken since the last meeting and was happy to inform the group that over 230 Questionnaires have been received from parents of visually impaired children, from all around the United States. The majority of responses came from Texas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin and Arkansas. In general, all parents wanted a national organization for a variety of reasons, ranging from helping children be more effectively mainstreamed in Public School Programs, to information on employment, financial aid and laws to aid the blind, to general friendships for their child, as well as wanting to share their experiences with other parents. The vast majority of responses were from rural areas, with the greatest need being expressed in areas pertaining to PL94-142.

At this time the meeting was turned over to Mr. Lee Robinson, acting President of the Parents Association. He called upon the chairpersons of committees to give their reports, the first of which was the Questionnaire, and the second of which was a discussion of newsletters from similar organizations. Mrs. Laura Fiol discussed newsletters, format and content as well as possible logos and type of print, space needs, etc. As it relates to content, she felt that the findings of the Questionnaire should be incorporated in the first issue, along with human interest stories, information on PL94-142, medical and technological information, and a section for letters to the editor.

The next committee report dealt with incorporation, and Mrs. Mike Katskee reported that in order for this organization to incorporate it must seek a tax-exempt status. In addition, there needs to be a Board of Directors and a Charter, with the Board of Directors consisting of an odd number for the purposes of breaking an even vote. She suggested that one Director per the six regions of the American Foundation for the Blind and one Director at large, would be an appropriate course to follow. Such concerns for incorporation must be legal counseling, funding resources, overhead and office space, bank accounts, authorization, membership and due structure as it relates to purpose, membership, and services.

The next committee report dealt with a description of structures of other parent groups, and Mr. Lee Robinson handed out a matrix of organizational structure of other parents' groups, attached to this Report. At this time various funding activities were discussed and Mr. Robinson had one possible interest in the State of Texas, and Dr. Spungin is waiting to hear from a request made to the Matilda Ziegler Foundation. The Bureau of Education for the Handicapped is another possible funding sources which will be looked into in the future.

At this time, Mrs. G. Smith, President of the Parents Group of the American Council for the Blind, was introduced and an open discussion was held as to the relationship of that group to this group. The basic difference of purpose being that this organization is only for parents of visually impaired, where the American Council of the Blind's organization is for parents of the visually impaired as well as visually impaired parents. It was generally felt that a spirit of cooperation will be maintained as well as communications at all levels.

At this time, three committees were formed to work in the afternoon and early the next morning in the following three areas:

1. Constitution Committee--made up of Jackie Carroll, Mr. and Mrs. Hedgecock, and Mrs. Linda Katskee.
2. The Newsletter Committee--made up of Laura Vidol, Fay Corey, and Maryloo Wilkinson.
3. The Fund-raising Committee--made up of Mrs. Eileen Hudson, Gretchen Smith, and Lee Robinson.

November 17, 1979:

The meeting was called for 9 a.m., and the group officially decided that the name of the organization be the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired. The Constitution Committee did an excellent job in writing a full Constitution, which was accepted and unanimously voted on by all present. At the present, Mr. Lee Robinson has the draft of the Constitution, which is in the process of being typed. The Constitution dealt with all areas

including dues, which were to be \$5 annually, for an individual member. For a group member, it would be three times that amount; for an associate member it would be .5 times that amount; for a supporting member it would be 10 times that amount; for a sponsoring member it would be 40 times that amount; and for a patron it would be 200 times that amount, or above. The officers would consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer--serving a two-year term. All could serve two consecutive terms as a maximum. The Board of Directors would consist of elected officers, ^{seven elected members} who match the six regions of the American Foundation for the Blind, with one at large. This number would give a total of 11 individuals with three-year terms. It was decided that of the 11, 7 must be parents and the remaining 4 be appointed by the elected officers.

Standing Committees were determined to be the following: Funding, Nominating, Newsletter, Publicity, Membership, Legislation, Education and Program Service. The Annual Meeting and the Board Meeting will be held the first weekend in November.

An amendment to the Constitution may be made by a member presented 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting and voted on 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. A 2/3 return or 20% of the membership vote is required.

The Fund-raising Committee decided that a letter should be written to the American Foundation for the Blind, asking them to continue funding for three years the Annual Meeting and the organization will seek matching funds. It was further determined that the first newsletter should be sent out by the American Foundation for the Blind, since it will have the initial article dealing with the responses and the results of the Questionnaire. It was determined at this time that the American Foundation for the Blind will continue to support in a consultative role the organization.

The third committee dealt with the newsletter and it was determined that the first issue will be out in February of 1980, mailed by the American Foundation for the Blind. The four purposes of the newsletter are: 1. Communication; 2. Information; 3. Identification of parent groups; 4. Seeking memberships. The logo for the newsletter will consist of a Tunnel Vision Eye, with a parent at one end and a child at the other. The title of the newsletter will be "Awareness". For the first volume of the newsletter the articles will consist of "The History of the Group", written by Dr. Susan Jay Spungin, "Who's Who in the NAPPV", written by Gene, the Results of the Questionnaire, written by Susan Spungin, and the Helen Keller Centennial, written by Bill Gallagher.

Fay Corey will describe future articles of the newsletters, and the following fillers of space will be written by Mary Lou Wilkinson, which will consist of a welcome square for information, and Are you Aware square information, and an Attention Parents Group information. There will be four issues, annually, with a theme for

each issue. The Fall Issue will consist of the Education and Legislation Theme; the Winter Issue will consist of Transportation and Recreation; Spring, Medical and Technological; and Summer, Recreation. In the first newsletter an Application Form will be printed. All articles are to be sent to Laura Viol by January 15, 1980, as well as basic information on each of the members and Parents Committee--namely, name, address, age, phone, child's name, age, visual disabilities, school, grade, and one sentence dealing with a reaction to the group.

It was decided that the group will incorporate in Austin, Texas, and a Box Office will be secured by Lee Robinson.

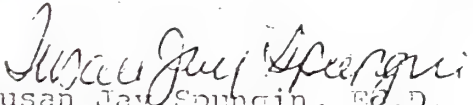
The following Officers were elected and duly appointed Lee Robinson President, Jackie Carroll, Vice-President, Linda Katskee, Secretary, and Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer.

At this time it was determined that the name of the National Ad Hoc Committee for Parents of Visually Handicapped Children and Youth should be changed to an Advisory Committee.

The following committee assignments were determined: Lee Robinson will attempt to incorporate the group, as well as get the Logo printed for use on stationery for letterhead. Laura Viol is in charge of the newsletter and getting the logo to Lee Robinson. Henry Hedgecock is in charge of opening an account in South Carolina, with two signatures. Eileen Hudson is in charge to draft a letter to the Foundation.

At this time, the committee chairpersons were elected, with Jackie Carroll being in charge of the Public Relations Committee, and Fay Corey, chairing the Nominations Committee. The remaining 7 Board Members should be selected and 3 names for each of the Board Members positions should be sent to Fay Corey no later than February 1, 1980.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.


Susan Jay Spungin, Ed.D.
National Consultant in Education

SJS:JD

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS
OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1. The name of this corporation shall be National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired.

SECTION 2. This association is a non-profit organization.

SECTION 3. This association shall be non-political and shall take no position in matters of governmental policies other than those concerning visual impairment.

SECTION 4. The principal objects and purpose for which this association was formed are as follows:

1. To provide support to parents and families by gathering and disseminating resource information regarding visually impaired children and youth on local, state, and national levels.

2. To inform the general public of the Association and its purpose.

3. To encourage the formation of parent groups.

Jan 81

On Friday, January 16, 1981, an executive board meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated was called to order by President, Lee Robinson. Board members present included: Jacqueline Carroll, Henry Hedgecock, Fay Corey, Jeanie Flack, Liz Hartman, Gail Hedgecock, Eileen Hudson, Elaine Moses, Laura Vidal, Mary Lou Wilkinson, and Linda Katskee; and an American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) representative, Dr. Susan Spungin. This meeting was held in conjunction with a workshop co-sponsored by the National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI), AFB, The Nebraska State Special Educational Department, and the Omaha Parents of the Visually Impaired.

Mr. Robinson introduced all members including Liz Hartman and Elaine Moses from Austin, Texas who are new board members and in attendance for the first time. Mr. Robinson then explained what he hoped to accomplish during the meeting. These included: 1. Ideas and goals for the organization to accomplish this year, and 2. Tools for board members to use in helping other parents and/or parent organizations.

Minutes were read from the November 16-17 1979 meeting by Secretary, Linda Katskee. Minutes were read and corrected which consisted of: 1. Associate membership dues are to be 60% of the annual dues, instead of 50%, and 2. One signature is needed to sign organizational checks.

Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer, read the treasurers report. As of January, 1981, NAPVI, Inc. has \$617.88 in balance, with \$148.00 in credit taken in immediately prior to this meeting. It was determined that NAPVI, Inc.'s fiscal year shall begin October 1 and end the following September 30. Dr. Spungin was asked by Mr. Robinson to report

on monetary funding for the ensuing year from AFB. She stated that due to the efforts of Mr. Bill Gallagher and Mr. Sam Negrin, NAPVI, Inc. will receive \$18,000 and assistance in fund raising. These funds will be used for printing and disseminating a newsletter, three regional workshops, and extra expenses accrued. Dr. Spungin also reported that Bill Gallagher will ask the AFB Board of Directors for funding for NAPVI Inc. for three more years. There has been no response from the Matilda Zigler Foundation nor federal funding and grants available.

Mr. Robinson called upon committee chairpersons to give their reports. Laura Vidal reported on the progress of the newsletter. She stated that the next print-out will be Winter, 1981, with the theme centering on technology. Themes for future publications will be as follows: spring-recreational, summer-medical, and fall-educational. Dr. Spungin suggested that NAPVI, Inc. print the newsletter instead of relying on AFB's printing facilities. It was suggested that a membership drive be attempted through the newsletter and also, a new format be investigated to facilitate easier reading for visually impaired readers.

Jacki Carroll reported on the program and publicity committee. She stated that she has investigated many avenues of publicity through TV coverage and publication coverage. One area of help needed is a still slide to be used for a TV spot. Dr. Spungin suggested that a slide could possibly be taken from AFB's presentation "A Little More Than Love". It was also suggested that "Closer Look" in Washington, D.C. could be of some service as far as publicity advice.

Fay Cory reported next on the nomination committee. She stated that a policy is needed for nominations of awards to be given by NAPVI, Inc.. Such awards given at this particular meeting included: 1. Dr. Spungin

and Mr. Gallagher for appreciation of their help and assistance with NAPVI, Inc.; 2. Josephine Taylor for outstanding contributions; 3. Rogers Brothers Foundation for sponsoring membership; and 4. Herman Eye Clinic for sponsoring membership. Fay stated that she had not yet received as many nominations for the board as was desired. Also, names are needed from the West Coast region.

Mr. Robinson reported on the production and statistics committee. He stated that in order to help cover NAPVI's expenses, a push for an expansive membership drive and fund raising are both greatly needed. Future years of NAPVI, Inc. must also be considered as far as an office staff to carry out directional services. Cost for publishing the newsletter and other NAPVI, Inc. mailings were discussed. Also, It was suggested that subscriptions be available to those who wish to receive NAPVI,inc.'s publications but not necessarily be a member. Mr. Robinson requested that by-laws be written to serve as a model for development. He also reported that on December 24, 1980, NAPVI, Inc. received its tax exempt status. Mr. Robinson reviewed further publications available to parents, parent groups, and professionals, one being NAPVI;s organizational document to be used by parent groups desiring to incorporate.

Future workshops were discussed, along with procedures for fund raising.

The meeting was then adjourned, having been moved by Fay Corey and seconded by Laura Vidal, and passed.

ON Sunday, January 18, 1981, the executive board reconvened at 8:45 A. M. President, Lee Robinson called the meeting to order, which was attended by the same members, plus guest Mike Katskee. Henry Hedgecock, treasurer, reported on monies received form this workshop. NAPVI;s present balance reads \$1089.67.

Mr. Robinson asked for the board's opinion of the revised publicity brochure. Discussion also followed on investing in calling cards for each board member and rubber stamps with NAPVI"S logo.

An evaluation followed on the Omaha workshop. Suggestions included: 1. Sessions too long, 2. May need to have small group discussions to facilitate interaction, 3. More dynamic opening speaker, 4. Longer board sessions, 5. Press releases prior to workshops, 6. Suggestions of compiling ideas into a brochure for planning workshops. Dr. Spungin suggested editing the tapes from the speakers to be part of NAPVI's publication list.

National elections were discussed at this time since the bylaws state that elections are to be held at a time when the board feels advisable. Mr. Robinson explained that NAPVI, Inc. is at a very critical stage as far as efficient organization is concerned. Mr. Robinson stated that although NAPVI, Inc. needs new blood, its membership is too wide spread and sparse to support a national election. Dr. Spungin suggested that the board decide now when these elections should take place. It was decided at this time that the board would not set a time for election, but rather through membership - selecting 500 members at minimum. It was also suggested by Henry Hedgecock that NAPVI, Inc. plan workshops in areas where there are few members, using the six previously stated regions and a membership drive to facilitate elections over the next

eighteen (18) months, six regional (following the six regions as stated in the NAPVI, Inc. by-laws) workshops will be held, ending with a workshop in the northeast United States in August of 1982, as a concerted effort in a national membership drive. This was seconded by Henry Hedgecock, voted upon and approved. Another resolution followed, made by Henry Hedgecock, which included that the number of the national board members remain at eleven (11) with the president voting only in a tie-breaker, when one or more board members are absent. This resolution was seconded by Jeanie Flack, voted upon and approved.

Fay Corey made a motion that NAPVI, Inc. purchase a gavel for the president. This motion was seconded by Jackie Carroll and passed on vote. The group then went into executive secession to discuss the possibility of national staffing.

From this, Mr. Robinson asked for committee reports as set forth by Mr. Robinson in an informal meeting on Saturday, January 17, 1981. The first committee to report was on national staffing, by Dr. Spungin. She suggested that for the present time, NAPVI's headquarters remain in Austin Texas, later perhaps considering a move to Washington, D. C.

Fay Corey next reported on the membership committee. She suggested numerous ideas for board members: 1. Write more articles in publications in their areas dealing with NAPVI, Inc.; 2. Greater board commitment; 3. Broader dissemination of pamphlets and fliers; 4. Develop some type of calling cards with an emotional appeal to advertise NAPVI, Inc.; and 5. Develop extended ways to advertise NAPVI, Inc. to include such organizations as special education boards, the National Association of Educators of the Visually Impaired, and case workers. Henry Hedgecock made a motion for these ideas to be adopted and Liz Hartman seconded the

motion. It was voted on and approved. Another motion was made by Jackie Carroll that proposed for new members joining after November 1 of any year, membership will carry over to include the following year. Henry Hedgecock seconded the motion with the motion being voted on and passed. Letters will be mailed to members whose dues are delinquent after January 31 of each year.

Reporting for the speakers bureau was Fay Corey. The board discussed whether its members had authorization to represent NAPVI, Inc. in the speakers role and what percentage of the honorarium (if any) would go to NAPVI, Inc.. A resolution was proposed by Eileen Hudson and seconded by Laura Vidal stating that if a board member is asked to be a speaker at a workshop, etc., with an honorarium covered by that organization, 50% of that fee up to \$100 will be retained by that board member and the other 50% given to NAPVI, Inc. (if the board member is also representing his/her local parent organization, the split can then be 25% to NAPVI, Inc. and 25% to the local group). If the honorarium is more than \$100, \$100 will be retained by the board member, with the remaining going to NAPVI, Inc..

The finance committee report was given by Henry Hedgecock who made a resolution that the central office, executive director, or president be able to spend up to \$50 without board approval; anything over \$500 will require three bids. (Any board member requiring expenditures will need board approval before monies will be appropriated.) The resolution was seconded by Mary Lou Wilkinson and voted on and passed. Henry Hedgecock also requested the board decide on the type of financial report it wants. Fay Corey made a motion for a resolution, stating that a certified public accountant or public accountant audit the financial

reports. It was seconded by Eileen Hudson, voted upon and passed. It was also suggested that if any board member wished to receive a copy of this report, he/she may contact the treasurer.

Liz Hartman reported on the policy statement committee, moving for a resolution stating that authorization be given to board members concerning specific local areas of concern to parents as they are received either by mail or telephone. This motion was seconded by Henry Hedgecock, voted on and passed. Mr. Robinson reminded the board that it cannot support any one specific candidate but can support a political position by advocating for better services.

Jacki Carroll reported on public relations. Her first concern involved TV coverage. She stated that a thirty (30) second public service announcement (PSA) was needed, using perhaps the single slide from AFB's "A Little More Than Love", plugging NAPVI, Inc.. This would then be used when contacting ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, and their affiliates. A second suggestion was to send news releases to board members to be given to their local newspapers, etc. on NAPVI's functions. Her third suggestion was the disbursement of NAPVI, Inc. brochures to agencies, children's hospitals, and clinics, opthomologists, etc., and schools. It was also suggested to obtain approval of the National Advertising Council and the Better Business Bureau. Mr. Robinson requested that perhaps Mr. John MulVulhill, associated in public relations with AFB, to talk to a NAPVI, Inc. representative.

Gail Hedgecock reported on the publication committee. She requested a membership list divided statewide and also which states happen to be in which NAPVI region. Suggestions from this committee included: 1. Information pamphlets on initial chapter organization, 2. A list of

camps and recreational areas be printed in the newsletter by regions, and 3. Specific inserts from newsletters (such as the camp list) be available on request. Dr. Spungin stated that she will mail to each board member the "Directory of Agencies Serving the Blind". Discussion followed on allowing an agency subscriptions, instead of demanding a membership as some are unable to become members. Mary Lou Wilkinson moved to set an agency subscription at 60% which at the present would be \$3.00 Eileen Hudson seconded the motion; it was voted on and passed. It was also suggested that 25 extra copies of the newsletter be mailed to each board member and 100 extra to the editor and AFB. Publication dates were set a December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1.

Mr. Robinson covered the workshop committee suggesting Pittsburg, Atlanta or South Carolina, and the west coast using AFB's Eileen Hancock. The first week-end in May was suggested for Pittsburg and the first week-end in June for the west coast. It was decided that the president or vice president and treasurer be in attendance at both workshops.

Before adjournment, Laura Vidal asked for a volunteer to write an article on the Omaha workshop for the newsletter. Mary Lou Wilkinson volunteered. The meeting was then adjourned.

1986 UNIT Misc. Bal Report

| | Debits | Credits | Bal. |
|----------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Bal brought fwd | | | 2467.00 |
| Dues & Contributions | | 1527.00 | 1994.00 |
| Printing | 296.44 | | 1697.56 |
| Postage | 211.12 | | 1486.43 |
| Bank Service Charge | 18.40 | | 1468.03 |
| Phones | 21.00 | | 1447.03 |
| Rubber Stamp | 10.23 | | 1436.80 |
| Member over pmt | 10.00 | | 1426.80 |
| Lawyer | 35.00 | | 1391.80 |

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1391.80

Henry H. H. H. H.

Nov 81

On November 6, 1981, Mr. Lee Robinson called the executive board meeting to order 9:00 am. at the Downtown Holiday Inn in Charleston, South Carolina. The board members present included. Jackie Carroll, Gail and Henry Hedgecock, Fay Corey, Elizabeth Hartman, Eileen Hudson, Elaine Moses, Laura Vidal, Mary Lou Wilkinson, Dr. Susan Spungen, Irwin Brod, and Linda Katskee. Mr. Robinson thanked the Hedgecocks for hosting this meeting and for all their time in preparation of such a meeting.

At this time, Mr. Robinson introduced Mr. Irwin Brod, in charge of fund raising for the American Foundation of the Blind, who will provide instruction for NAPVI's board members on fund raising during this meeting.

Mr. Robinson explained the main purposes of this meeting; those being #1 fund raising and #2 resolutions to cover such topics as local affiliations, accreditation, etc.

The minutes were read from the January, 1981 meeting by Secretary, Linda Katskee. They were approved as corrected which consisted of spelling & wording errors. Minutes from an informal October, 1981 meeting in San Fransisco, California were read and approved.

Mr. Robinson asked for committee reports.

1. First to report was Fay Corey on the Pittsburg workshop. Mrs. Corey stated that she felt the workshop was quite beneficial, with more professionals attending than parents. But through this, she feels that NAPVI, Inc. will gain many advocates, such as Paul Freeman.
2. Mr. Robinson reported on the great effort & success in the state of Connecticut to organize a state affiliate.
3. Mary Lou Wilkinson reported on a parent workshop in Little Rock, Arkansas. She stated that professionals were just as enthusiastic as the parents and are striving at the present time to become the "first" state affiliate.
4. Elaine Moses reported on the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, Texas, provided by the Texas Educational Association where 25 parents & children attended a workshop.
5. The San Fransisco workshop was covered by Eileen Hudson. She expressed much concern over the governmental funding of state special education programs of which the parents who attended agreed with. At the present, there are no NAPVI members in San Fransisco, but a committee was formed to organize a possible parent organization. Another professional advocate present at this meeting was Bruce Harrell.

6. Liz Hartman reported on her activities with the Texas committee for children 0 - 3 years of age. It has had a positive affect on the organization of services to these children.

7. Gail Hedgecock next reported on the South Carolina Commission for the Blind, which has begun to help with pre-school education for the visually impaired children.

8. Mrs. Corey mentioned a new group which as formed in Pennsylvania through the school for the blind called VIFTY (visually impaired for first two years). The group will be funded for 3 years by the ^{Western Penn. School} American Council for ~~the~~ blind. children, Pittsburgh, Pa.

9. Mr. Robinson reported on the following activities : a.) MIDland/Odessa, Texas - interest in NAPVI; b.) Raleigh, N.C. interest in NAPVI; c.) Philadelphia, Pa. interest shown from pre-school parents; d.) Deaf-Blind Parents in Texas - 1000 books have been prepared for professionals & parents on services available, with NAPVI's information included; e.) Newsletter to AEVH-it was suggested that NAPVI, Inc. present this group with a total overview of its organization in return for names of parents who would benefit from NAPVI, Inc.

Committee reports were presented at this time. First to report was Jackie Carroll on the publicity committee. She stated that it has been most difficult to carry out because NAPVI has not yet defined its purpose. It was suggested that accreditation is needed nationally. Mr. Brad stated the possibility of receiving such through contacting "Yellow Book". At the present, NAPVI is already on the "Closer Look" list.

Laura Vidal reported on the newsletter. She stated that the next newsletter will be printed by January 1, 1982, which means that articles must be in no later than December 1. Suggestions made by Ms. Vidal and Mrs. Wilkenson included; mailing important articles from other sources to her, moving article deadline up two weeks to insure promptness, and seeking other persons to submit articles besides board members. Also, discussion followed as to whether a disclaimer was needed. (ok)

The workshop brochure was reported on by Linda Katskee. She asked Mary Lou Wilkinson and Fay Corey for their expertise from workshops. It was decided to be kept light in text and not in much depth.

Fay Corey reported on the nominations committee of which has not received any new names since last meeting, Also included in her report was criteria needed for the special recognition for professionals.

Henry Hedgecock submitted the financial report for 1981. It was most graciously accepted by the board of directors and much thanks expressed. Mr. Hedgecock reported that the financial books had been audited in September. Also, he asked that when submitting bills, please state what they are for at time of request. It was also suggested that the board investigate the possibility of insurance coverage.

The meeting was adjourned at this time. Special committees were formed to meet during the interval of this meeting and report their conclusions. The board then met with Mr. Brod for their training in fund raising.

The meeting was reopened on Saturday, November 7, 1981 at 9:00am. by President, Lee Robinson.

Mr. Robinson discussed hand-outs which he gave to each board member. These included:
1.) Regional membership report by states. Discussion followed on future membership dues, voting policy, & state affiliates. 2.) Outgoing mail (during 1981). 3.) Budget for 1982.

Discussion followed on the promotion of NAPVI, Inc. and what the board believes NAPVI is concerned with.

Committee reports followed -

1. Publicity & publication - this committee rewrote the history, purpose & statement sheets to become the "Lifeline Statement". This was to help develop NAPVI's goals.

A motion was made by Fay Corey & seconded by Liz Hartman to include in all future newsletters, a statement of purpose as phrased by Mr. Robinson in the first published newsletter. It was voted on and passed. Statement.

The nominations committee report was given by Fay Corey. She first reported on criteria for NAPVI's awards. It was suggested there still be a certificate of appreciation given for monetary donations, but also a special award in expertise. Criteria suggested include: 1. professional or layman; 2. in any field (educator, medicine, etc.); 3. long term performance; 4. publications; 5. training; 6. experience & travel; 7. peer reputation. One need not include all, but a combination of these. Also suggested was that if a nomination was not accepted for a year, the award need not be given. The committee was also asked to suggest an appropriate award.

Continuing on with this report, the committee brought forward their questions on board elections. These included - 1. can a board member succeed himself? 2. when does the

4.
rotations start? 3. should these rotations start on a volunteer basis? 4. can a board member be recalled? 5. what are "voting members?"

Mr. Robinson reported for the affiliation committee. In NAPVI's bylaws, it states 1 board member per region with 1 member at large. In order to accomplish this, affiliations are needed. Much discussion took place on possible structure of affiliates. These included: 1. local - state - regional - national, 2. chapters, or 3. regional advisory committee from chapters being a part of national board.

The meeting was adjourned to continue with the fund raising workshop. A special fund raising committee was selected. These included Eileen Hudson, chairperson, Liz Hartman; and Henry Hedgecock.

Mr. Robinson reopened the meeting on Sunday, November 8, 1981, at 8:45am. He stated that the main purpose of today's meeting was to finalize & vote on issues as needed. These included 1. fund raising, 2. membership, 3. continue to develop services, 4. publications & public relations.

Workshops & meetings in the future were given along with suggestions of those to attend. Included are Los Angeles (February 12 - 13 or 26 - 27) Spungin, Robinson, Hartman, & ^{Black} ~~Hudson~~; Dallas (March 26 - 27) Spungin, Robinson, Moses, Hartman, & ~~Wilkinson~~; Phoenix (May 14 - 15) Spungin, Robinson, ~~Moses~~ or Katskee; ^{mond} ~~Richland~~ (June 4 - 5 or 11 - 12) ~~Spungin, Robinson, Corey, & Carroll~~. This one may be dropped for another board meeting in Austin, Texas on January 22 - 24 or 29 - 31.

Final committee reports followed: 1. Publication / public relations - discussion was opened on making available in booklet form "Parents to the Rescue" for \$2.00. A motion was made and passed for such. Laura Vidal presented a new membership brochure. Eileen Hudson made a motion to accept this brochure. The motion was seconded and carried on vote. Jackie Carroll read a new draft of the NAPVI fact sheet. Gail Hedgecock made a motion to accept this draft. Liz Hartman ~~seconded~~ the motion, which was voted on and passed. Jackie Carroll passed out a hand-out from Mr. Brod to present to TV and radio stations for media coverage. At this time, Laura Vidal suggested the possibility of having stamps and / or calling cards available for each board member. A motion was made and passed to print calling cards for each board member. The topic of a different NAPVI brochure was tabled.

The policy & resolution committee report was given by Elaine Moses. The first topic covered was accreditation, to be accredited by a crediting body to insure services.

Robinson stated that the AFB has been concerned about these services and has begun procedures to accomplish this. They have asked many organizations serving the blind for a resolution covering such. A motion was made by Liz Hartman at this time to accept and publish a resolution with a second by Jackie Carroll. It was voted on & passed and later resented by Mary Lou Wilkinson after much discussion followed on the board's lack of knowledge of accreditation. It was seconded by Fay Corey, voted on and passed. This was tabled until the next meeting as was a statement Mr. Robinson had written as a possible publication from NAPVI, Inc. The second topic was the policy on funding to maintain vision services alone instead of under a general handicapped service. Discussion followed on advantages of this type vs. umbrella type dispersement and administration. A motion was made by Laura Vidal to accept this policy. Fay Corey seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. The third topic was confidentiality, NAPVI's list should remain confidential except on special request of parent for parent's name or member for member's name. Discussion followed on such with this being tabled until the next meeting. The fourth topic was advocacy - to include NAPVI's list of services & goals. It was suggested that copies be made of these to be mailed before the next meeting.

Mr. Robinson covered the fund raising committee & announced suggestions given by Mr. Brod for the board's fund raising. He requested that prospects be mailed to Eileen Hudson by December 4, 1981, with name, address, guidelines for application, what they fund, contact person, and deadline. Mr. Brod will send procedures, etc. to committee by the November 17 conference call (7:00 E.S.T.). Between December 4, 1981, and January 31, 1982, the committee will work with board members on steps to take.

Fay Corey reported for the committee that developed the new purpose and need statement. Much discussion followed on what this statement should include. Mr. Robinson read a copy of a case statement he brought with him. It was decided that the committee take this ground work & add on to develop NAPVI's need statement.

Mr. Robinson reported on affiliation possibilities. Again, no definite conclusion was reached, so Mr. Robinson will tell prospects that the board is working on the affiliation procedure. Dues structure was discussed as was minimum membership numbers.

These were tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned officially at 12:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Katskee

Linda Katskee, Secretary

1981 NAPVII Financial Report

| | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beginning balance 1/1/81 | | | \$ 617.88 |
| Revenues: | | | |
| Dues | | \$ 1280.00 | 1897.88 |
| Contributions | | 9100.00 | 10997.88 |
| Books | | 2176.83 | 13174.71 |
| Lunches and registration | | 888.32 | 14063.03 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Postage | \$ 417.88 | | 13645.15 |
| Phone | 156.63 | | 13488.52 |
| Printing, supplies and miscellaneous | 2887.66 | | 10600.86 |
| Service charge | 61.55 | | 10539.31 |
| Lunch and registration | 789.06 | | 9750.25 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Beginning balance 1/1/81 | \$ 617.88 |
| Total revenues for 1981 to date | <u>13445.15</u> |
| Total credits | <u>14063.03</u> |
| Total expenses for 1981 to date | <u>4312.78</u> |
| Ending balance 8/25/81 | <u><u>9750.25</u></u> |

I verify that the books and records of NAPVII are correct and up-to-date as of August 27, 1981.

Donna J. Ford
Donna J. Ford

Henry H. Hedgecock
Henry H. Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVII

Jan 82

President, Lee Robinson, called the executive board meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. on Friday, January 28, 1982 in Austin, Texas. Those board members present included: Jackie Carroll, Henry Hedgecock, Fay Cory, Elizabeth Hartman, Eileen Hudson, Elaine Moses, Laura Vidal, Mary Lou Wilkinson, and Linda Katskee. Also in attendance were Dr. Susan Spungin and Irwin Brod from the American Foundation for the Blind and Gretchen Smith, president of the American Council of Blind Parents who will observe NAPVI's board functions.

Thank yous were expressed at this time by Henry Hedgecock for flowers sent to them in appreciation for the fine job they did in hosting the last meeting and from Jeannie Flack.

Minutes from the November 1981 meeting were read by secretary, Linda Katskee, and approved as corrected which consisted of changing a reference to American Council for the Blind to Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind and spelling errors. The treasurers report was read and approved and much thanks was given to Mr. Hedgecock for a fine job in preparing NAPVI's 1981 financial record.

Gretchen Smith explained what the American Council of Blind Parents has been striving to accomplish and in what ways she felt NAPVI and ACBP could combine services. Dr. Spungin explained her feelings on the benefit of combining resources yet remaining within each own entities. It was suggested that a draft be written during the course of this meeting stating the differences of each organization's format and then to be released by each board. The committee selected consisted of Gretchen Smith and Eileen Hudson.

At this time Fay Cory presented Irwin Brod with a token of thanks from NAPVI's board for all his time and effort spent on research and in servicing the board of directors on fund raising.

Mr. Robinson then explained numerous handouts:

1. Background facts of NAPVI.
2. Survey - what would be good "drawing power" to increase NAPVI membership.
3. A letter Mr. Robinson will send to "professionals" to encourage NAPVI interest and membership from the professionals to their parents.
4. Suggested expense voucher for 1982.

5. Revised list of officers' and board members' names and addresses.

6. Draft on education accreditation from NAPVI.

7. Article "Flowers Are Not in Your IEP."

8. Fund raising format.

9. Budget and project expenses set up by Dr. Spungin and Dr. Brod.

10. AFB publication on NAPVI's workshops.

11. Future of the Education Department.

12. Most recent membership read-out. Mr. Robinson announced the dates and locations of future meetings he will attend and speak at.

1. Washington D.C. - February 18-21
2. Los Angeles - February 24-25
3. Pennsylvania - March 11-12, workshop for over 200 state VH teachers
4. Utah - March 20 - Utah Council, Services for the Blind
5. North Carolina - April 22, teacher workshop
6. Vancouver - June 27-July 1, AEPH Convention
7. Dallas, Texas - March (no date) NAPVI regional workshop

Mr. Robinson made the following NAPVI announcements: A disclaimer statement has been added to each edition of NAPVI's newsletter "Awareness", "Parents to the Rescue" is now completed and will hopefully be printed soon, and calling cards have been approved for each board member. They will be mailed to each shortly.

At this time Mr. Robinson asked for unfinished business:

1. Mary Lou Wilkinson reported that the state of Arkansas is still planning to become a state affiliate.

2. Jeannie Flack encouraged each board member to make an effort to visit with new parent contacts. She felt that this would greatly improve NAPVI's outreach. She also encouraged parents to stress physical education with their

visually impaired children and to make modifications when needed so these children can participate in such areas.

3. Eileen Hudson reported on a letter she recently wrote to a television studio complaining about stereo-typing of the blind. In response, she received an apology and encouraged fellow board members and parents to do the same to educate the public on this matter.

4. Jackie Carroll stated that she has made inquiries with different advertising medias which would greatly benefit in public awareness of NAPVI to aid in fund raising. She will work with Mr. Brod on this matter.

5. Laura Vidal reported on a conference to be held February 20, 1982 in New York state in conjunction with the New York Lighthouse to recruit parents to assist with education services. She stated that a representative from NAPVI has been asked to attend. Jackie Carroll was appointed.

Ms. Vidal also asked that the editorial position of "Awareness" be given to Mary Lou Wilkinson. Mr. Robinson expressed his thanks to both Ms. Vidal and Mrs. Wilkinson for their fine effort in co-editing "Awareness" in the past. He also thanked his wife, Keitha, for her active participation in producing NAPVI's newsletter.

Ms. Vidal stated that she has received letters from various organizations who have seen NAPVI's newsletters. One such letter was from the Association of Blind Athletes asking permission to print an ad from NAPVI in return for the same from them. Mr. Robinson requested that a copy of NAPVI's newsletter be sent to them along with permission to print an ad about NAPVI. Ms. Vidal also received a letter from the California Association of Orientation and Mobility Specialists requesting the same recognition. Mr. Robinson reminded the board about the importance of not endorsing any one company or group. Another letter was from the Colorado Lions Club offering information about summer camps sponsored by Lions Clubs throughout the U.S. They also offered their camp as a possible meeting place in the future.

Ms. Vidal stated that information about summer camps for the visually impaired will be in the next newsletter. It was also suggested that NAPVI prepare a complete list of all information lists that NAPVI has compiled. Elaine Moses was appointed to this task.

6. Liz Hartman reported on her participation on the Texas Committee of the Handicapped. They have been concerned with Congress' actions on P.L. 94-142 and wrote a resolution in support of P.L. 94-142. Mr. Robinson suggested that NAPVI do the same. Mrs. Hartman was asked to draft a letter that parents could use to contact congressmen and the administration.

7. Elaine Moses suggested that the board prepare a statement for professionals to make them aware of the impact of deregulation of P.L. 94-142. She also reported that the topic of confidentiality will be discussed later.

8. Fay Cory reported on her research for the appropriate NAPVI award. She suggested a pewter pitcher, a silver dish set, or a mantel clock, all within the price range of \$60 to \$90. These would include the name of the recipient and NAPVI's logo. Mrs. Cory stated that she felt it should be a useful item and was asked by Mr. Robinson to send the information and pictures of these to headquarters so that he could initiate a round-robin type letter for board approval.

Mrs. Cory also suggested that perhaps NAPVI could be of assistance to parents in identifying insurance companies that cover handicapped children. It was suggested that she contact Barbara McGary in Washington, D.C. for assistance.

9. Linda Katskee reported that the outline for a brochure on workshop planning is complete. She asked that Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Cory read and comment on the outline since they too have planned a workshop in their own areas.

10. Dr. Spungin announced that Dr. Deanna Gruman has been hired by AFB as national consultant on education. She also stated that Kay Farrel has been hired as national consultant on pre-school education. Ms. Farrel will now represent AFB as liason with NAPVI, replacing Dr. Spungin.

Mr. Robinson asked for the boards thoughts on the handout entitled "Some Facts about NAPVI." Discussion followed with final approval.

At this time, Mr. Robinson introduced the topic of affiliation. He reminded the board that NAPVI could not provide each affiliate with tax exempt status from national headquarters because national could then be held responsible for an audit of their books. Mr. Robinson asked what services then could be provided by national headquarters to entice a local or state organization to affiliate. The board suggested such services: manuals, support from a national organization, newsletter, technical assistance, speaker bureau, legislative information, conferences and workshops, prestige of belonging to a national organization, power, pier support, participation in a dynamic growing frontier, and resource lists.

Much discussion followed. From this it was decided to rewrite the membership application brochure. Fay Cory moved to delete group membership from the categories of memberships. Jeannie Flack seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. Jacki Carrol moved that the category entitled "Agencies" should now include community groups and agencies, instead of state, local and federal. This was seconded by Liz Hartman, voted on and passed.

Criteria for affiliation was discussed. These include:

1. 15 voting members. This was voted on and passed.
2. 50% of officers must be a parent of a visually impaired child. This was voted on and passed.
3. Dues - associate (60%) - \$3.00 at present, at large (100%) - \$5.00, group/agency (300%) - \$15.00, and affiliate (100%) - \$5.00. Liz Hartman moved to set the affiliate dues at the same percentage as at large with 20% per member going back to the affiliate organization. This was seconded by Jeannie Flack, voted on and passed. The dues structure also passed when voted upon.
4. NAPVI Board of Directors - It was suggested that there be one representative per existing regions and one at-large representative elected to the national board. In order to qualify for such, a member must:
 - a. File a letter of nomination from its affiliate group or a letter of recommendation if an at-large member.
 - b. Sign a letter of consent for travel involved in being a board member.
 - c. Letter of introduction from nominee.
 - d. Must have been a member for at least one year, immediately prior to nomination with experience as an officer preferred.
 - e. The nominations committee will need at least three nominations per region.

Henry Hedgecock made a motion to accept this concept of board elections. Liz Hartman seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Discussion followed on the board's make-up, length of term, and election retention. The board shall consist of six regional members with one at-large member and four officers. Officers shall hold office for two years with board members serving a term of three years. It was suggested that the Spring newsletter contain nomination information to allow for fall elections.

The rotation of board members will be as follows:

| <u>Region</u> | <u>1983</u> | <u>1984</u> | <u>1985</u> | <u>1986</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| I | | X | | |
| II | | | X | |
| III | | X | | |
| IV | | | X | |
| V (decrease by 1) | | | | X |
| VI | X | | | X |
| At-large | X | | | X |

X - represents one board member to be elected.

Liz Hartman made the motion to accept this rotation system of board elections. It was seconded by Fay Cory, voted on, and passed.

The meeting was then adjourned by Lee Robinson for the day. Committees were assigned to study various topics.

The meeting reopened on Saturday, January 29, 1982 by president, Lee Robinson, at 8:45 a.m. The first order of business was a report on fund raising from Eileen Hudson.

Mrs. Hudson stated that she has received many prospects from the board members, which now need to be followed up on. In writing proposals to these contacts, she suggested including a cover letter, newsletter, NAPVI's budget info sheet, NAPVI's fact sheet, tax exempt status letter, and a list of board members. If no answer is received in thirty days, Mrs. Hudson suggested calling the contact person to find out if the request was received and when the request will be received. If no reply is received within fifteen days, call again, and follow this with a letter. If no reply is made after this or if a negative reply is received, Mrs. Hudson suggested a letter thanking the contact for their time and asking how to be more effective next time.

Mr. Robinson presented figures on a projected budget. He stated that on the average, a statewide workshop can cost NAPVI \$5,000, four newsletters a year cost \$500 an issue to print and \$900 per mailing, brochures \$300, thirty-second television spot \$7,500, individual workshops \$750 and

regional workshops can cost \$2,500 each (which NAPVI will have three more before July.) He also stated that NAPVI will need expense monies for brochures and telephone bills.

A list of prospective workshop locations was made. These include: Los Angeles (with two board members attending and plans already underway), Harrisburg (one board member and committed), Utah (one board member and committed), North Carolina, Dallas (three board members and committed), Phoenix (two board members and committed), Montana, Richmond, and New York. It was also suggested to plan follow-up workshops in locations of previous workshops. These include: Omaha, Pittsburg, Augusta, San Francisco, Arkansas and Arizona.

Dr. Spungin suggested that during such workshops, an effort should be made in obtaining memberships for NAPVI. She also stated that the cost of the next newsletter could possibly be covered by contributions or possibly AFB.

Mr. Robinson asked for suggestions to strengthen NAPVI in the future. These include: grandparents club, lending resource library, workshops, seek opportunities to collaborate with existing groups and organizations to increase public awareness of NAPVI, and building NAPVI's scope through publicity.

Suggested workshop locations after July 1982 include: Kansas City/St. Louis (November 1982), New York City (April 1983), Connecticut (June 1983), Columbus (October 1983), Atlanta, Birmingham/Montgomery, Chicago, Denver, Louisville, Seattle, Baltimore, Boston, Winston Salem, Richmond, Florida, Los Angeles, Arkansas, and Texas.

Suggestions for publicity included: television, magazines, speakers bureau, calling cards (to be left in doctors' offices, low vision clinics and social service centers), talk shows, celebrity endorsement, displays at meetings, workshops and bumper stickers.

The meeting was closed at this time for the day by president, Lee Robinson.

The meeting was reopened on Sunday, January 30, at 8:55 a.m. by president, Lee Robinson.

Mr. Robinson reported on some unfinished business. AFB will print 3,000 copies of the NAPVI Fact Sheet.

Henry Hedgecock will check on a possible contribution for funds for printing the newsletter. If this is not possible, AFB will print the next newsletter.

Workshops in the next few months include:

1. Los Angeles - February 26-27, Lee Robinson and Jeannie Flack attending.

2. Phoenix - May 14-15, Lee Robinson and Linda Katskee attending.

3. Dallas - March 26, Lee Robinson, Eileen Hudson, Elaine Moses attending.

Mr. Robinson reminded the board members of brochures, etc. that are available to take while at this meeting.

Discussion followed on changes in the wording of membership brochures.

Eileen Hudson read the statement prepared by her and Gretchen Smith sighting the differences between NAPVI and ACEP. NAPVI serves parents of the visually impaired, while ACEP serve blind and sighted parents of blind and sighted children. It was agreed that this statement needs to be published in the Spring newsletter by both NAPVI and ACEP, with each organization providing a copy of such published statement for the other group. It was decided that it was important for each group to remain separate entities, serving its own need. At this time a motion was made for the board to go into executive session to review some of its business. It was voted on and passed.

Elaine Moses read a letter she had just received from the Austin Association of Mental Retardation. In its content it contained a sample letter encouraging congressmen to sign a "Dear Colleague" letter in support of the present status of P.L. 94-142 that had been initiated by a group of congressmen concerned with the future of P.L. 94-142. Mrs. Moses stated that board members should encourage other parents in their areas to call or send a telegram to their congressmen, as it would be too late to write to give support to this most important legislation.

Liz Hartman read the suggested resolution she had composed on P.L. 94-142. Henry Hedgecock moved that the resolution be adopted. It was seconded by Liz Hartman, voted on, and passed. Fay Cory amended this resolution, adding a telegram be sent to President Reagan at the White House specifying NAPVI's stand. This was seconded by Linda Katskee, voted on and passed. Mr. Robinson appointed Mrs. Hartman and Mrs. Cory to draft such a telegram.

The "How to Plan for a Workshop" brochure outline was read by Linda Katskee. After some suggestions were made, Henry Hedgecock made the motion to accept the outline. It was seconded by Jackie Carroll, voted on and passed.

Jackie Carroll expressed her thoughts on "Parents to the Rescue", of which she had proofread. Mr. Robinson is hopeful it will be printed soon and ready for his trip to Washington D.C.

Dr. Spungin read a rewritten joint statement from NAPVI and ACBP. A motion was made to accept this statement by Henry Hedgecock. It was seconded by Fay Cory, voted on and passed.

The telegram drafted to send to President Reagan was read by Fay Cory stating NAPVI's support in continuing P.L. 94-142. Henry Hedgecock moved to accept and send this telegram. It was seconded by Jeannie Flack, voted on and passed.

Mr. Robinson asked Elaine Moses to read the affiliation statement, which included a description of services provided by NAPVI, requirements for application and disclaimer. Much discussion followed and numerous suggestions being made. Liz Hartman made a motion for the board to go into executive session to discuss such affiliation matters. It was seconded by Linda Matskee, voted on and passed.

Henry Hedgecock made a motion to vote on each requirement for application separately. It was seconded by Linda Matskee, voted on and passed. The first requirement stated fifteen voting NAPVI members are required to form an affiliate. These may be either parents or non-parents. A motion was made by Mr. Hedgecock to accept this statement. It was seconded by Liz Hartman, voted on and passed. The second requirement stated that at least 50% of the officers serving this affiliation must be parents of visually impaired children. Mr. Hedgecock moved to accept this requirement. It was seconded by Linda Matskee, voted on and passed. The third requirement stated that a copy of the affiliate's by-laws must be sent to the national office of NAPVI to be approved to be consistent with NAPVI's by-laws. The motion for acceptance was made by Bileen Hudson and seconded by Fay Cory. It was voted on and passed. The fourth requirement asked that each member's name, address, status (parent or non-parent) dues, and list of affiliation with other blind-oriented organizations be sent to the national office of NAPVI. Jackie Carroll made the motion to accept this requirement. It was seconded by Jeannie Flack, voted on and passed. The fifth requirement involved a current list of members of the affiliation be mailed to NAPVI's home office by January 1 of each year (specifying parent or non-parent) along with the dues. Mrs. Flack moved to accept this requirement. It was seconded by Mr. Hedgecock, voted on and passed. The sixth requirement asked for compliance with the above requirements. If not, NAPVI reserves the right to revoke the charter. A motion was made by Mrs. Hudson to accept this requirement. It was seconded by Mr. Hedgecock, voted on and passed. Liz Hartman moved that a national committee be selected to screen applications. Laura Vidal seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Mrs. Moses then read an introduction letter. Dr. Spungin and Mr. Brod read an addition to the application procedure. Mrs. Vidal moved that both of these be accepted. Mr. Hedgecock seconded the motion. They were voted on and passed.

The sample application form was then read as was a copy of a sample by-law for an affiliate to use. Eileen Hudson moved to accept these. Linda Katskee seconded this motion. It was voted on and passed. Mr. Robinson thanked the committee for their hard work, which consisted of Henry Hedgecock, Mary Lou Wilkinson, Elaine Moses and Linda Katskee.

Mr. Robinson asked for the report on the newsletter. Laura Vidal read a release which will be given to other publications upon request explaining what NAPVI is. She also stated that Mary Lou Wilkinson will be editor after the Spring newsletter is published.

The committee researching the nomination procedure for the national board was asked to report next. Fay Cory and Liz Hartman read the criteria to serve on NAPVI's board of directors. These include:

1. Member of NAPVI for one year.
2. Actively be involved in the field of the visually impaired.
3. Three letters of reference (one being from a professional in the field of vision).
4. A letter of intent.
5. Applicant must be willing to travel and sign release.
6. Information sheet about applicant.

Mrs. Cory continued with more facts which included: nominations will be opened to members in the Spring newsletter, and a nominating committee will be formed to receive the applications, review them, make sure there will be three per region with one write-in vote suggested, contact each nominee, and mail ballots to each voting member of NAPVI. Laura Vidal moved to accept these criteria. It was seconded by Linda Katskee, voted on and passed.

Irwin Brod summed up the board's fund raising projects. He expressed his confidence in the capability of NAPVI being able to raise the money required. Mr. Brod and Mr. Robinson will prepare a packet for each member to use in their own fund raising. Liz Hartman and Henry Hedgecock will remain on the committee with Eileen Hudson to assist in troubled areas.

Mr. Robinson stressed the importance of this matter and urged everyone to put forth their greatest effort.

Mr. Robinson then adjourned the meeting. He reminded everyone that the next board meeting will be in November of 1982 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Katskee

Linda Katskee

NAPVI, INC. FINANCIAL REPORT

29 JAN '82

Begining Balance 1 Sept. '81

\$9725.25

| | DEBITS | CREDITS | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Bank Charge | 0 | 0 | 9725.25 |
| Contributions | 0 | 390.00 | 10115.25 |
| Dues | 3.00 | 512.00 | 10624.25 |
| Lunch & Registration | 69.20 | 0 | 10555.05 |
| Misc. | 29.70 | 14.50 | 10539.85 |
| Outside Service | 0 | 0 | |
| Phone | 178.88 | 0 | 10360.97 |
| Postage | 923.59 | 1.00 | 9438.38 |
| Publications | 159.33 | 745.00 | 10024.05 |
| Savings Account | 0 | 5862.78 | 15886.83 |
| Supplies | 21.95 | 0 | 15864.88 |
| Travel | 0 | 0 | |
| Checking Account | 5782.10 | 0 | 10082.78 |
| Total | 7167.75 | 7525.28 | 10082.78 |

Begining Balance 1 Sept. '81

\$9725.25

| | |
|---|----------|
| Total Revenues | 7525.28 |
| Total Credits | 17250.53 |
| Total Expenses to date | 7167.75 |
| Donations of Service | 220.00 |
| Ending Balance of Checking Account 29 Jan '82 | 4000.00 |
| Savings Account | 5862.78 |
| Gross | 9862.78 |

Henry H. Hedgecock

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 5-7, 1982

The annual board meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was called to order by President, Lee Robinson, at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 4, 1982, in St. Louis, Missouri. Those board members present included: Jackie Carroll, Henry Hedgecock, Jeanie Flack, Eileen Hudson, Elaine Moses, Laura Vidal, Mary Lou Wilkinson and Linda Katskee. Also in attendance were Kay Ferrell, liaison person from the American Foundation for the Blind and Judi Stotland, a parent of a visually impaired child from California who has been active in organizing a parent group in that state. Absent were board members Liz Hartman and Fay Corey.

Mr. Robinson presented the priorities of this meeting which included: fund raising, future workshops, and reorganization of officers. He then read a progress report that he had presented to the American Foundation for the Blind which included a summary of activities of NAPVI from August 31, 1981 to August 31, 1982.

At this time Elaine Moses presented Mr. Robinson with a plaque to express the board's appreciation for all the work and time he has contributed to NAPVI.

Mr. Robinson asked for a report on activities from each board member:

1. Jackie Carroll reported that the New York Association of Parents of Visually Handicapped Children has begun procedures to affiliate with NAPVI. She also shared her experience in attending AFB's Helen Keller Conference and the presentation of the Migel Awards given to an outstanding lay person and professional in the field of vision.

2. Linda Katskee stated that there has been interest shown in a possible NAPVI affiliation from the Omaha parent group. She also reported on the American Printing House' annual conference held in October that Mr. Robinson and she attended.

3. Henry Hedgecock gave an account of his many fund raising projects.

4. Gail Hedgecock reported on activities in South Carolina. One such activity included an individual case of possible due process for an appropriate education of a visually impaired child. Mrs. Hedgecock stressed that this was where an active parent organization could be of great influence.

5. Elaine Moses reported on the various parent meetings she has attended. Those included Dallas in March, Phoenix in May and, most recently, Kerrville, Texas. While in Phoenix, Mr. Robinson presented the annual NAPVI Appreciation Award to Dr. Kathryn Maxfield.

6. Jeanie Flack reported on a workshop held in Montana. During this meeting interest was shown in the formation of a parent group with a possible NAPVI affiliation. A second workshop is planned in March. In October, Mrs. Flack was asked to speak to a group of parents in Oregon and was able to obtain a commitment to affiliate with NAPVI. One topic discussed at this meeting was sex education for visually impaired children and it was suggested that NAPVI could possibly provide information on this subject.

7. Mr. Robinson covered Fay Corey's activities in Maryland and Ohio, where groups have expressed an interest in NAPVI affiliation. She has also been active with parent groups in both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

8. Laura Vidal stated that she has received an increased amount of correspondence since summer in regards to AWARENESS publication and articles. Ms. Vidal also reported on a meeting held at the New York Lighthouse involving PACT (Parent/Agency Coordinating Team) in February on priorities of visually impaired children of different age groups. She stated that this committee will continue to attempt to meet some needs of the visually impaired in New York City. It was also suggested that possibly NAPVI could work with this organization to provide a NAPVI workshop in New York City.

9. Eileen Hudson reported on the annual track meet of the U. S. Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) which was held in Austin, Texas in June of 1982. This group sponsors many athletic activities for blind persons age 12 through adult. Eileen stated that the 1983 track meet will be in Missoula, Montana. She also is in hopes of a parent group forming at the Wisconsin State School for the Blind.

Fund raising activities were briefly reported on by Mrs. Hudson. She encouraged the board to make a greater effort to seek out fund raising sources, stating that she had mailed to most members names of prospects which need to be followed up on. Eileen also reported that all grant applications had been turned down.

10. Mary Lou Wilkinson stated that the possibility of an affiliate in the state of Arkansas at the School for the Blind has greatly decreased. Mrs. Wilkinson reported on the progress of the newsletter, "AWARENESS." She stated that many articles and ideas have been received and asked for the board's suggestions on improving the newsletter. Suggestions included more human interest and humorous articles.

11. Mr. Robinson asked Judi Stotland to report on activities from California. She presented the board a copy of a booklet, Resources Available to Visually Impaired People in Northern California, recently written by AAWB and AEVH in which NAPVI is included as a resource. She also reported that she mailed information about NAPVI to a professional group establishing standards for pediatric ophthalmology. The history of the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was explained by Mrs. Stotland.

12. Kay Ferrell encouraged the board to express their thanks to AFB for the published update on P.L. 94-142. Linda Katskee was asked to write a letter to Mr. Gallagher. She reported that the recent changes are better than the original draft but these need to be monitored closely until February when they will be presented again. Action may need to be taken again at this time for complete withdrawal of the proposed regulations of P.L. 94-142. Mrs. Ferrell also stated that AFB and NAPVI were the first organizations to oppose the deregulations in press conferences.

Mr. Robinson asked for approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Hedgecock made a motion for approval. This was seconded by Mrs. Carroll, voted on, and passed.

Mr. Hedgecock gave the treasurer's report. A motion for approval was made by Mrs. Hudson and seconded by Mrs. Flack. It was voted on and passed. Mrs. Ferrell explained NAPVI's expenses managed by AFB from their \$18,000 grant. She also reported that AFB has given future grants for 1983-84 and 1984-85.

Mr. Robinson asked for old business at this time.

1. One question raised involved whether NAPVI will provide mailing service for its affiliates. This will be discussed further at another time.

2. Another topic of question involved the American Council of the Blind Parents/NAPVI Position Statement. It was suggested that two copies of this statement be mailed to Gretchen Smith for endorsement. ACBP will keep one copy and NAPVI the other, to be made available upon request only. A motion for acceptance of this was made by Mr. Hedgecock. It was seconded by Mrs. Wilkinson, voted on and passed. Eileen Hudson will conclude this matter.

3. Mr. Robinson discussed the hand-out on the history of the National Federation of the Blind. Mr. Hedgecock made a motion to keep and use this statement to counteract negative reactions or answer questions about NFB. This was seconded by Mrs. Hudson, voted on and passed.

4. A discussion was held on the topic of accreditation. Mrs. Wilkinson made a motion to write a resolution in support of the concept of accreditation to include input from professionals in the field of vision, consumers, and parents with the use of such bodies as the National Accreditation Council, etc. Mrs. Carroll seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. A committee was chosen which consisted of Judi Stotland, Elaine Moses, and Kay Ferrell.

Mr. Robinson next asked the board for participation in this meeting's projects. The first committee will prioritize and make recommendations on the following topics: publications, organization of a parent group, workshops, case management, sex education, eye

conditions, a letter to ophthalmologists from NAPVI, and papers by Saul Freeman and Michael Trout. This committee includes: Jackie Carroll, (chairman), Laura Vidal, Mary Lou Wilkinson, Eileen Hudson, Gail Hedgecock, and Jeanie Flack.

Elaine Moses was asked to read her existing "List of Lists." These included:

1. Recreation facilities
2. Sources of aides and appliances
3. National organizations of handicapped children with addresses
4. Teacher preparation programs
5. Orientation and mobility instruction facilities
6. Low-vision clinics
7. Braille material sources
8. Large print material sources
9. Recorded material sources
10. Genetic counseling
11. Sex education resources
12. Residential schools
13. Periodicals on handicapping conditions
14. Books about the visually handicapped
15. Post high school rehabilitation programs
16. Independent living skills programs

Laura Vidal read the public service notice prepared about NAPVI to be released to newspapers, magazines, and other publications. The board was in agreement to accept this notice.

Jackie Carroll reported for the nominations committee. The committee's report needs to be finalized before it is included with NAPVI's organizational documents.

Mr. Robinson asked for new business at this time. Gail Hedgecock presented the board with her resignation. It was accepted with profound regret and deep thanks were expressed on the excellent contribution Mrs. Hedgecock had made to the board. Eileen Hudson made a motion to accept the resignation. It was seconded by Mary Lou Wilkinson, voted on and passed.

Eileen Hudson made a motion to appoint Judi Stotland from Region 6 to fill the vacant board seat for the interim period. This was seconded by Laura Vidal, voted on and passed. The board welcomed Mrs. Stotland.

Jackie Carroll discussed ideas on fund raising. A motion was made by Mrs. Carroll to pursue the Lions Club as a possible fund raising project. Mrs. Wilkinson seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Mr. Robinson adjourned the meeting at this time for the day.

Mr. Robinson reopened the meeting at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, November 5, 1982. After the board toured the Missouri School for the Blind, Judi Stotland read her committee's first draft on NAPVI's statement on accreditation and insurance. Much discussion followed with agreement to table these statements until Sunday.

Mr. Robinson led a discussion on board reorganization. It was suggested that Mr. Robinson resign as president to then be appointed by the board as executive director. There was a need to define the difference between the role of president and executive director. Mr. Robinson also asked for input on a job description for an office manager. Laura Vidal made a motion to create a position of executive director for NAPVI on a volunteer basis. This was seconded by Mary Lou Wilkinson, voted on and passed. Ms. Vidal made a motion to create the position of office manager for the NAPVI executive office. This was seconded by Eileen Hudson, voted on and passed. It was moved to appoint Keitha Robinson as office manager. This was seconded by Judi Stotland, voted on, and passed. Mr. Robinson accepted this position for Mrs. Robinson and thanked the board.

Mr. Robinson then resigned as president of NAPVI. Henry Hedgecock moved to accept Mr. Robinson's resignation. Laura Vidal seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed. The board accepted this resignation with deep regret and understanding. Thanks were given to Mr. Robinson. Mrs. Stotland made a motion to appoint Mr. Robinson as executive director of NAPVI. It was seconded by Mr. Hedgecock, voted on, and passed. Mr. Hedgecock moved to hold Mr. Robinson's resignation until the close of this annual board meeting to allow him to act as president pro-tem. Jeanie Flack seconded this motion. It was voted on and passed.

Discussion followed on whether to replace the one board opening. It was agreed to keep the board with the present amount of 11 for the good of NAPVI.

The board requested that a job description be written on the newly appointed position of executive director and office manager. Mr. Robinson will do this.

The topic of affiliation was next discussed. Those requesting approval for affiliation were California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (entire state) and Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children Parent/Teacher Organization, Inc. (parents only from that school). A motion was made by Henry Hedgecock to accept CAPVI as an affiliate of NAPVI. It was seconded by Mrs. Flack, voted on and passed. Mr. Hedgecock made a motion to also accept Western Pennsylvania School Organization as an affiliate of NAPVI. It was seconded by Jackie Carroll, voted on, and passed.

It was suggested that an official charter notification be designed by a committee to be given to each affiliate. Mrs. Carroll reminded the board that in NAPVI's articles of incorporation, it stated that there is to be a corporate seal. Elaine Moses will investigate when she returns to Austin, Texas.

It was also decided to adopt official colors for NAPVI. Discussion followed with the choice being yellow and black.

Jackie Carroll presented a question about future affiliate applications. It was suggested that if such applications are received by the executive office throughout the year, a round-robin type letter be written with all information included on the prospective affiliate to insure immediate action taken by the board for approval or denial.

Mary Lou Wilkinson gave a report on those who receive copies of the newsletter. Mr. Robinson asked the board who should continue to receive the newsletter. Suggestions made included: members, prospective members, agencies (such as AEVH and AAWB, one to the president), guest speakers for one year, and complimentary copies to board members. It was also brought to the attention of the board that because of federal regulations, libraries can receive "AWARENESS" only through a subscription, and not membership. It was also suggested that the board redirect its emphasis of newsletter contact to ophthalmologists, low vision clinics, colleges of ophthalmology and optometry, and discontinue all other complimentary copies except to those previously stated.

Discussion also continued on the length of the newsletter. Approximate cost for an 8 page copy is 26¢. It was also suggested to produce the newsletter in Spanish and large print. A suggestion was made to encourage such recipients to send a tape to Lee who will reproduce the newsletter on tape. Another suggestion was made to contact Radio Reading Services who could possibly incorporate an article(s) in their program. A copy of the newsletter will be mailed to them. Mrs. Wilkinson encouraged board members to send information to her on possible articles.

Mr. Robinson asked the board to consider office supplies for the executive office. His concern at this time involved the prospect of NAPVI purchasing its own copier machine. At the present time, Mr. Robinson is using his own copier for printing NAPVI's documents, charging 4¢ a copy. With the amount now being produced, he stated that it would be cheaper to have them printed at a commercial copier. Mr. Robinson also stated that his machine was in need of many repairs, perhaps even more economical to buy a new machine if NAPVI continues to use his services. Through board consensus, NAPVI will continue to receive services from Mr. Robinson. It was suggested that NAPVI could either purchase or lease their own and then charge Mr. Robinson for his personal copies. Mr. Robinson asked the board to consider what type of copier to buy or lease, more professional looking end product, soft-ware for computer, and possibly a microprocessor. Mr. Robinson will do the research for this consideration.

A request was made by the board to be kept informed of communications that the executive office receives from each region. Mr. Robinson suggested that every March and October an update of these names and addresses be made available to the board member(s) in that region.

Mr. Robinson asked for the board's thoughts on a pocket-style jacket folder to be printed, compliments of NAPVI, for workshops, mailings, and specific information. With the board's approval, Mr. Robinson will research this and find the most economical folder.

Discussion was held on NAPVI's position on debate over schools for the deaf being incorporated with schools for the blind and public school mainstreaming versus blind residential schools. It was decided that a resolution needs to be drafted concerning both topics. This will be added to the existing resolutions committee.

A question was raised by a board guest, Dr. Mae Davidow, concerning a lifetime NAPVI membership. This was tabled for the present to be discussed later as unfinished business.

Mr. Robinson next brought forward the topic of fund raising. He suggested that the board redirect its efforts in other areas since previous attempts have failed. Mr. Robinson reminded the board that only 11% of all funds come from corporations. He suggested that members needed to zero in on individual donators. Ideas were discussed using individuals for NAPVI endorsement.

It was also suggested that each board member attempt a fund raising project in his/her own community as well as one consolidated effort to raise monies.

Eileen Hudson stated that a directive was needed for Mr. Robinson to follow in his fund raising efforts. The board agreed that the time allotted by AFB for NAPVI affairs in Mr. Robinson's employment should be directed toward fund raising. Those areas included were: Lion's Club, AFB telethon, and endorsement from a public figure.

Mrs. Hudson will contact each board member by February 1, 1983 for their ideas concerning fund raising.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reopened at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday, November 7, 1982, by president pro-tem, Lee Robinson.

Henry Hedgecock asked the board to consider its position on guests being present at NAPVI board meetings. Discussion followed with Mr. Hedgecock making a motion to draft a policy to allow board members' spouses and consultants by invitation of a board member to be present at board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stotland, voted on, and passed.

Mr. Robinson reminded the board that new NAPVI business cards will be needed by some board members and the address of the executive office changed on the remaining board member's cards. It was suggested that address labels be used for the latter, that those members could purchase.

Laura Vidal asked Mr. Robinson to investigate why the previous executive office phone number in Austin, Texas, has been discontinued, with no forwarding number provided by the phone company. Mrs. Robinson asked Elaine Moses to inquire about this problem and suggested that such calls be forwarded to her in Austin.

Discussion followed on reading material for board members. Three books suggested by Mr. Robinson will be mailed to each board member round-robin style. Also, copies of Dr. Mae Davidow's "Social Competency" will be provided for each board member.

It was suggested that copies of members willing to serve on NAPVI committees, that the executive office has received, be mailed to each board member in that region. Mr. Robinson was also reminded to mail regional membership lists to board members.

Fund raising was again discussed with Mr. Robinson reminding board members to make a concerted effort in his/her own area. He also suggested that the board be aware of long-term funding. Dr. Davidow suggested contacting the Delta Gamma Sorority. It was also suggested to contact an executive of a large organization to act as consultant at an annual board meeting and also be a guest speaker at the coinciding parent meeting. Judi Stotland suggested selling stationery designed by a visually impaired child. Advertising for such a contest will appear in the newsletter.

At this time, Mr. Robinson turned the gavel over to Jackie Carroll, vice president, to assume her new duties as president of NAPVI.

Henry Hedgecock made a motion to fill the position of vice president. It was seconded by Elaine Moses. Much discussion followed on the roll of vice president. The motion was voted on and passed.

Discussion was also held on election procedures stated in NAPVI's by-laws. Judi Stotland made a motion to amend these by-laws under Article 3, Section 3, to read "Class A member of NAPVI for at least one year prior to nomination for office," instead of "Class A members of the NAPVI, as defined in Article IV of these by-laws." Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Mrs. Carroll asked for nominations from the board for the office of vice president. Mr. Hedgecock nominated Elaine Moses. This was seconded by Mrs. Wilkinson. Mrs. Hudson nominated Laura Vidal. This was seconded by Judi Stotland. Mr. Hedgecock moved to close the nominations for vice president. It was seconded by Laura Vidal. Discussion followed with candidates present and absent. Election was held with Elaine Moses being elected.

The topic of choosing the at-large member of the board was discussed. Through board consensus, this member will be Liz Hartman.

Mrs. Carroll asked for the resolutions committee to read their drafts. These were voted on after each reading. They included:

- 82.1 Residential Schools. Mr. Hedgecock moved to accept this resolution. It was seconded by Laura Vidal, voted on, and passed.
- 82.2 Placement. Eileen Hudson made a motion to accept this resolution. It was seconded by Henry Hedgecock, voted on, and passed.
- 82.3 Accreditation. Mr. Hedgecock moved to accept this resolution. It was seconded by Mrs. Moses, voted on, and passed.
- 82.4 Insurance. Ms. Vidal moved to accept this resolution. It was seconded by Henry Hedgecock, voted on, and passed.

A version more readily understood by lay persons was read for each resolution. Mr. Hedgecock made a motion to accept these. Mrs. Moses seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Suggestions for future workshops were made. These included: New York City (mid-May); California (in conjunction with the California Transcribers Organization on March 10-12, 1983); Florida (Orlando for next board meeting in November, 1983); and Baltimore/Washington, D.C. (possibly if funds exists).

The topic of board elections was discussed. Mrs. Carroll reminded the board that the request for nominations must be made in the Spring newsletter and ballots mailed to members before the November general meeting in 1983.

Mr. Robinson will clarify a question raised in Article 2, Section 6 of NAPVI's by-laws concerning election procedures of board to include the member at-large.

The subject of available subscriptions to the newsletter was discussed. A motion was made by Judi Stotland to reaffirm NAPVI's membership policy on only members receiving the newsletter and to eliminate a subscription category. This was seconded by Elaine Moses, voted on, and passed.

Mrs. Carroll asked for a report from the projects committee. Their report included:

1. Publications - Saul Freedman's and Michael Trout's papers were discussed. Mr. Robinson will circulate Michael Trout's paper and the ballot for board approval. The members were reminded that this will be geared for professionals and not necessarily for parents.

2. Parent Group Packet - Laura Vidal and Jackie Carroll will organize such a packet and mail to the board for approval.

3. Workshop Pamphlet - The committee explained their grammatical changes and questioned "flow-through" funds. Eileen Hudson made a motion to accept this pamphlet with explanation of "flow-through" funds. It was seconded by Mary Lou Wilkinson, voted on, and passed.

4. Parent Case-Book Packet - The consensus of the board approved such a packet to include all information of test results, medical reports, history, etc. for a handicapped child compiled throughout that child's life. The title agreed upon was "Here We Go Again (Your Child's Record)." Mr. Robinson will edit the committee's recommendation and mail to the board for final approval. He will also verify copyright status and suggest an appropriate fee.

5. "How To Lobby State Legislatures" - It was suggested that Judi Stotland confer with a resource professional before the board makes a decision on making this pamphlet available to its members as it is not a NAPVI original.

6. "Help Me Doctor" - This was a drafted article geared to professionals from a parent's standpoint. The board made its suggestions and approved it.

7. A volunteer list will be included in the affiliation packet to make known to the executive office and board members which general members are willing to serve on committees and/or offices.

8. Sex Education - Jeanie Flack will research this topic for board approval.

9. Eye Conditions - Eileen Hudson will draft a description of pathology and effects of numerous eye conditions. These will then be approved by a professional, knowledgeable in various eye conditions. Mrs. Hudson asked board members to send any information about such conditions to her. It was also suggested that these could be re-written as ongoing articles in "AWARENESS."

Judi Stotland asked for permission of the board to incorporate NAPVI's logo in with CAPVI's logo. The board was in agreement to allow an affiliate such privileges.

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Carroll asked for a motion for adjournment. Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion. It was seconded by Eileen Hudson, voted on, and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Katskee

Linda Katskee



- support
- information
- service

2011 Hardy Circle, Austin, Texas 78757, Tel. (512) 459-6651

1982 NAPVII Financial Report

Checking Account

| | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beginning balance 9/1/81 | | | \$ 9725.25 |
| Contributions | \$ 1105.28 | \$ 0.00 | 1105.28 |
| Dues | 2253.00 | 44.00 | 2209.00 |
| Bank Charges | 0.00 | 7.76 | (7.76) |
| Lunch and registration | 1034.00 | 1378.15 | (344.15) |
| Miscellaneous | 14.50 | 120.83 | (106.33) |
| Phone | 0.00 | 1065.67 | (1065.67) |
| Postage | 7.00 | 1933.10 | (1926.10) |
| Publications | 1665.50 | 2846.93 | (1181.43) |
| Supplies | 0.00 | 543.40 | (543.40) |
| Travel | 250.00 | 3212.69 | (2962.69) |
| Transfers to/from Savings | <u>1500.00</u> | <u>5782.10</u> | (4282.10) |
| | 7829.28 | 16934.63 | |
| Ending balance 8/26/82 | | | <u>619.90</u> |

Savings Account

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | | 0.00 |
| Transfers to/from checking | \$ 5782.10 | \$ 1500.00 | \$ 4282.10 |
| Interest | <u>234.82</u> | <u>0.00</u> | 234.82 |
| | 6016.92 | 1500.00 | |
| Ending balance 8/26/82 | | | <u>4516.92</u> |

I verify that the books and records of NAPVII are correct and up-to-date as of August 26, 1982.

Donna J. Ford

Donna J. Ford

Henry H. Hedgecock

Henry H. Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVII



- support
- information
- service

2011 Hardy Circle, Austin, Texas 78757, Tel. (512) 459-6651

Contributions:

| | <u>Money</u> | <u>Services</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Tires, Inc. | \$ 50.00 | |
| Charity Grandmothers | 20.00 | |
| E. K. & E. A. Hudson | 100.00 | |
| House, Holmes & Jewell, P.A. | | \$ 220.00 |
| T. H. & N. McKay | 25.00 | |
| Food Town Stores | 10.00 | |
| RCI | 50.00 | |
| S. D. Thumel | 17.00 | |
| S. A. Watson | 2.00 | |
| J. C. & C. D. McIntire | 2.00 | |
| H. H. Hedgecock | 500.00 | |
| H. H. Hedgecock & Family | | 34.28 |
| Vision and hearing Programs | | |
| Howard Co. Public Schools | <u>75.00</u> | |
| | 851.00 | <u>254.28</u> |

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS
OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

JULY 29-30, 1983

An Executive Board Meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. was called to order by President Jacqueline Carroll in Austin, Texas on Friday, July 29, 1983. Those present included Mrs. Carroll, Elaine Moses Puryear, Henry Hedgecock, Dr. Susan Spungin and Dr. Kay Ferrell (both representing the American Foundation for the Blind), Dr. Lee Robinson and Linda Katskee.

The board members were given a tour of the national office, with a review of office procedures. Discussion of numerous topics concerning NAPVI operations were discussed.

On Saturday, July 30, 1983, proposals were presented by Mr. Shawn O'Brien from O'Brien and Associates, Austin and Mr. John Clark of J.C. Clark and

Associates, Albuquerque, New Mexico, concerning professional assistance in fund raising. No decision was made at this time concerning which type and/or firm to affiliate with. It was suggested that Dr. Robinson inquire further to obtain names of other firms available in the Austin, Texas, area. Dr. Spungin will also review the two proposals with a qualified fund raiser through AFB.

Mrs. Carroll handed copies of drafts of NAPVI'S Procedures Manual and job descriptions for executive director and office manager to those present. A committee was appointed to read through these drafts, make suggestions and mail these suggestions to the remaining committee members. This committee will consist of Dr. Ferrell, Judi Stotland, and Henry Hedgcock. Mrs. Carroll asked for their final draft to be presented at the November board meeting.

Discussion was held on the possibility of NAPVI retaining a set amount of financial assets in investment form, such as certificates of deposit with a savings account available for readily available funds. It was suggested that, with board approval, Mr. Hedgcock place \$4,000 in such an investment.

Dr. Ferrell asked the Executive Board to consider the possibility of making one travel agent responsible for all airline reservations for the November board

meeting. Mrs. Carroll asked her to proceed with this consideration and contact board members with details.

Mrs. Carroll discussed the approval procedures for affiliations and suggested that a committee for initial review be chosen to speed this process along. That committee consists of Jeanie Flack, Eileen Hudson and Linda Katskee. If a conflict of interest should occur with one of these committee members, Judi Stotland, alternate, will replace that member for that particular affiliate approval. Once this committee has made its recommendation, copies of the affiliation application will be mailed to each board member for their approval or denial.

Discussion was held on increasing NAPVI membership. It was suggested to contact such groups as AEVH, AAWB, teacher groups, residential programs, state departments of education, large school districts, university programs, Exceptional Parents, and the Library of Congress.

The meeting was then adjourned and later reopened at the national office for a telephone conference with NAPVI Board Members. Those present included the executive board, with Laura Vidal, Fay Corey, Eileen Hudson, Mary Lou Wilkinson and Judi Stotland present via telephone conferencing.

Mrs. Carroll informed the Board of the present

situation of the national office and the Robinson family. She then asked for the Board's approval to move the office back to Austin, Texas and to obtain a post office box to remain active until time merits its closing. Some discussion followed. It was then voted on and passed.

Mrs. Carroll then explained to the Board that Dr. Robinson has agreed to remain as executive director with a letter of agreement. She then asked for the Board's approval in offering this letter of agreement to Dr. Robinson. It was voted on and passed.

The next topic discussed was permission from the board to seek office space. Mrs. Carroll explained the conditions under consideration: That the #1 Option was to find office space in Austin suitable to NAPVI'S needs that is rent free, with an allowance of \$2,900 for office equipment and funds to hire a part-time manager to be obtained by October 1, 1983 or if unable to acquire, then consideration of the #2 option, which is rental space to share expenses with Keitha Robinson's existing business, retaining Mrs. Robinson as office manager and using her equipment. Much discussion followed with further suggestions of month-by-month rental and real estate office space. This was voted on and passed.

Mrs. Carroll explained the proposals as presented

to the Executive Board by Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Clark. She asked for the Board's permission to check on other fund raising firms and the credibility of Mr. O'Brien's company. Mrs. Carroll then asked for the Board's approval to budget \$2,800 toward fund raising. It was voted on and passed.

The next topic concerned NAPVI'S publications. Mrs. Carroll suggested to the Board that one price be given to such publications, instead of double-pricing for members and non-members. This was voted on and passed. A price of \$3 was also suggested for a new NAPVI publication, HOW TO PACK THEM IN: A GUIDE TO PLANNING WORKSHOPS.

Mrs. Carroll explained the procedure the Executive Board had approved for the affiliation procedures. It was suggested that one copy of the application be mailed to each of the committee members and then returned to the executive office with their reasons for approval or denial, and then sent to the Board if the majority agrees with their reasons. The Board then voted on the applications for Affiliation on 1) NAPVI Of Ohio and 2) The New York Association of Parents of Visually Impaired Children, Inc. Both were voted on and approved, with NAPVI Of Ohio receiving six in favor and two against.

Henry Hedgecock reported to the Board that NAPVI received \$2,500 from AFB as the final monies from the

1982-83 grant. He also asked permission of the Board to 1) place \$4,000 in a Certificate of Deposit (CD) investment and 2) keep the checking account under \$3,000 with excess placed in the savings account; if the savings account becomes too large, some of the monies will be placed in a CD. Both were voted on and approved.

Mrs. Carroll presented a projected budget for approval. This read as follows: \$20,000 in assets, \$3,000 in checking, \$4,000 in projected dues and \$3,000 in savings accounts, allowing a working budget of \$30,000. This was voted on and passed.

Dr. Robinson asked for permission to increase the line-item spending to \$1,000 without Board approval. This was also voted on and passed.

Mrs. Carroll announced the Board's decision to appoint a committee to review the Procedures Manual, job description of executive director and office manager and office procedures. Dr. Ferrell will initiate examination, then mail to Henry Hedgecock, then Mrs. Stotland, and back to Dr. Ferrell. She also explained to the Board the idea of using one travel agent for the annual board meeting in Florida.

Harv Lou Wilkinson asked that the topic of subscriptions to NAPVI'S newsletter, AWARENESS, be again placed on the agenda for the annual board meeting.

With no further business, the conference call was adjourned.

Informal discussion ensued. A "To Do" List was completed with numerous topics covered. (See Addendas I and II) One item discussed was whether NAPVI should allow different agencies the right to request assistance in completing their questionnaires from NAPVI members. It was suggested that an article be placed in AWARENESS explaining that NAPVI will screen these requests but feel the importance in assisting with some. Dr. Spungin asked for NAPVI parents to also consider participating in a federal grant that AFB has received on pre-school education and another questionnaire on orientation and mobility. A research and Review Committee was appointed to review such items. This committee consists of Fay Corey, Jeanie Flack, and Gail Hedgecock.

A committee was appointed to act as the Bylaws Committee. This consisted of Dr. Robinson, Dr. Ferrell and the Executive Board.

Mrs. Carroll asked Dr. Robinson and Eileen Hudson to coordinate on NAPVI fund raising. One suggestion made was a pilot mailing plea to the Rotary Club of Dallas. Dr. Robinson will investigate further.

The topic of future workshops was discussed. Those suggested include: November, 1983 - Orlando, Florida; March 1984 - New York; and October-November, 1984 -

Baltimore/Washington D.C. Dr. Robinson was asked to visit with the existing parent group in Connecticut to determine if a workshop should be planned for that area. Dr. Ferrell and Mr. Hedgecock plan to attend the Helen Keller Conference in October, 1983.

Dr. Ferrell read a draft of the letter of agreement for executive director and office manager. These will be typed and mailed to Dr. and Mrs. Robinson.

Mrs. Carroll asked Dr. Robinson to investigate CAPVI'S request for NAPVI'S participation in obtaining an Apple Computer.

Further topics to be discussed at the annual board meeting include memorial gifts to NAPVI, Grandparent's Club and "In Honor Of" gifts.

The meeting was adjourned.

ADDENDA I

ACTIVITY SUMMARY
DRAWN FROM PROCEEDINGS OF
NAPVI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

July 30, 1983

1. Request proposals for two more fund raising organizations and distribute to Executive Committee.
<ROBINSON>
Implement decision with Elaine Fureyear as local coordinator <ROBINSON, MOSES>
2. Make hotel and meeting arrangements for annual November meeting and area parent workshop, including program development and coordination with local groups.<ROBINSON>
3. Search for free office space. (Deadline October 1, 1983.) <ROBINSON, FUREYEAR>
4. Obtain post office box <ROBINSON>
5. Check with lawyer about CAPVI/JAC computer issue. Respond to Mrs. Stotland. <ROBINSON>
6. Prepare annual report for Board of Directors.
<ROBINSON>
7. Amend Bylaws by September 1, 1983. <ROBINSON, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE>

8. Explore internship with Anne Corn at the University of Texas <ROBINSON,CORN>
9. Conduct membership drive. Secure total membership of 1,000 by December 31, 1983.
10. Submit proposal to Apple Computer for free equipment. (Contact Robyn Roller) <ROBINSON>
11. Generate list of people and/or organizations who should always receive copies of AWARENESS, e.g. Matilda Ziegler, Hatfield, RFB, Evensen, Seeing Eye. Delta Gamma Foundation.<ROBINSON>
12. Obtain \$4,000 CD. <HEDGECOCK>
13. Develop and submit EXCEPTIONAL PARENT article. <CARROLL>
14. Attend APH annual meeting Oct. 15-17, 1983 <COREY, ALTERNATE - LINDA KATSKEE>
15. Review and edit office procedures manual with job descriptions. <HEDGECOCK, STOTLAND, CARROLL>
16. Explore workshop sites and dates for late October-November Baltimore, Washington; March - New York City. <ROBINSON>
17. Contact JVIIB regarding NAPVI ad (free or low cost). <SPUNGIN>
18. Contact Migel Library regarding inclusion of NAPVI brochure in all letters. <SPUNGIN>
19. Contact Kathy McGivern and/or Mary Ellen Mulholland regarding NAPVI use of Alliance list. <SPUNGIN>

20. Make arrangements with travel agent for Orlando airline tickets and notify board. <FERRELL>
21. Send REACH OUT AND TEACH to Research and Review Committee (Corey, Flack, Hedgecock, Robinson). <FERRELL>
22. Check out O'Brien and Associates' proposal with Liz Martucci. <FERRELL>
23. Find names of fund-raising consultants in Austin. <FERRELL>
24. Obtain list of purchasers of A LITTLE BIT MORE THAN LOVE. Send to Robinson. <FERRELL>
25. Resurrect NAPVI Position Paper and circulate to Board for vote on joint publication with DVH/DEC (Parent's Responsibility in the Education of their Visually Impaired Children.) <ROBINSON>
26. Obtain presentation/workshop folders for November meeting (yellow and black). <ROBINSON>
27. Investigate possibility of AFB donation to NAPVI of office typewriter. <SPUNGIN>
28. Contact AFB Business Office regarding its best rate on copiers. <SPUNGIN>
29. Investigate availability of answering machine, desk, chairs, etc. <SPUNGIN>
30. Usian survey to Research and Review Committee for consideration. Usian rewrite cover letter. (ROBINSON, FLACK, COREY, HEDGECOCK)

31. Contact Connecticut Parents Group.<ROBINSON>

32. Type letters of agreement for personnel. <K.
ROBINSON>

33. Obtain signature stamp for president. <ROBINSON>

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS
OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED. INC.

September 1, 1983

A telephone conference with the Executive Board was held on Thursday, September 1, 1983. Those present included Jacqueline Carroll, Elaine M. Puryear, Dr. Lee Robinson and Linda Katskee.

Dr. Robinson reported that no office space has been found as yet, but the search will still continue with Elaine Puryear's help.

He also stated that plans have begun for the annual board meeting in November in Orlando, Florida. A request was made by the AAWB-AEVH Alliance of Florida for a representative of NAPVI to speak at their meeting during this time in Daytona Beach, Florida. They will pay all expenses for that engagement. The Florida parent group requested a theme for the workshop to be presented at the Board Meeting on Multihandicapped Visually impaired children.

Dr. Robinson reported that he has contacted another professional fund raiser. AFB agreed that O'Brien and Associates appears to be credible. A recommendation was

made to proceed with this organization immediately. It was voted on and passed. Dr. Robinson will proceed.

The current membership brochure is nearly used up. The executive office will have the brochure reprinted with the needed corrections.

A suggestion was made that Henry Hedgecock do all the billing of NAPVI expenditures, then submit the total bill to AFB. Mrs. Carroll and Dr. Robinson will investigate.

Suggestions were made for the recipient of the NAPVI'S Outstanding Contribution to Parents of the Visually Impaired Award. Those included Polly Moor, Elinor Long and Berthold Lowenfeld. The committee will research.

Mrs. Carroll reported that Fay Corey will not be able to attend the American Printing House Meeting. Alternate Linda Katskee will also be unable to attend. It was suggested that Mary Lou Wilkinson and Dr. Robinson both plan to attend and contact the various organizations meeting during that time to speak to these groups about NAPVI.

Mrs. Carroll then stated that she wishes to relinquish her position as president due to health reasons. The decision of the Executive Board was that this will be brought before the Board in November to be considered. In the interim period, Elaine Furyear, vice

president, will assist with the presidential duties,
until such time as Mrs. Carroll wishes to resign or to
continue her term as president.

The conference call was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Katskee

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER, 1983

(Prepared from taped proceedings by Eileen Hudson)

Henry Hedgecock called the Sunday morning, November, 1983 NAPVI board meeting to order in Orlando, Florida.

Discussion opened in regard to the affiliations and nominations criteria for the bylaws. Liz Hartman moved that the Nominations Committee, consisting of Fay Corey and Liz Hartman draw up and present criteria for eligibility of NAPVI officers, as they have for being on the membership on the NAPVI Board of Directors. She stipulated that additions and changes could be made after the board members received the draft in the mail. The criteria would then be approved by mail ballot. Eileen Hudson seconded the motion, which passed.

Discussion then turned to the Executive Committee and its duties. Liz Hartman moved that the word "Executive Committee" be added to the bylaws when and where appropriate, with the duties of the Executive Committee to be outlined and sent to the Board along with the revised bylaws. Jeanie Flack seconded the motion, with the amendment that the board member-at-large attend the Executive Committee meeting, as that committee represents the membership and the board member-at-large represents the same. (This motion and second was not voted on; therefore, no action was taken.)

A discussion ensued as to the feasibility of holding the annual board meetings in Austin, Texas. Executive Director Lee

Robinson suggested that this issue should not become a policy and the Board agreed.

The Board then discussed the membership numbers required in order that a national election could be held. No record of this was found in prior minutes or in the bylaws. A conversation between Dr. Susan Spungin and Mr. Robinson during an earlier Board meeting was recalled, wherein it was not considered a good idea to bring in any new board members at the time because much more success could be met with the continuation of the present Board and to increase the number of members, before election of officers, to 750, so that all members could be included, not just the voting membership. Eileen Hudson moved that 500 voting members be required before an election of officers in 1984. Liz Hartman seconded it. An additional motion carried to hold the election in 1985.

The next discussion involved voting procedures. Liz Hartman moved that the elections be conducted by mail sixty (60) days prior to the annual Board meeting, in accordance with the bylaws. Motion was seconded and carried.

Those present also discussed the possibilities of an annual conference which would include the entire voting membership. The suggestion was made that such a conference would give the entire membership the opportunity to place agenda items on the Board's schedule.

Liz Hartman, who is member-at-large, suggested that she coordinate the regions. She stated she would be willing to spend

time at the NAPVI office in order to do this. She also stated she would contact a grant writer for assistance in obtaining monies for the office. She suggested that her husband, Joe, might apply for funds from IBM under the employee program.

Discussion followed on possible short term NAPVI projects NAPVI which would be considered as fundable by others. Suggestions included obtaining speakers for an annual conferences; hosting area workshops; underwriting publication costs, holding a high-tech conference. Henry Hedgecock suggested implementation of a toll-free hotline to be used by parents. Dr. Ferrell suggested the establishment of a fund for obtaining V.H. equipment. (Transcriber's note: a portion of Dr. Ferrell's comments was inaudible.)

Mary Lou Wilkinson suggested patterning the proposed NAPVI convention after our Omaha, Nebraska, meeting. Another suggestion was that the Board consider a scholarship fund--one for a student and one for a professional.

The group then prioritized immediate assignments.

Judi Stotland stated that she will complete the provisional affiliate packet describing "do's and don'ts." She will serve on the Affiliations Committee and will continue to work with CAPVI to help build NAPVI membership in that area. She also agreed to review legislative materials, such as those Jonathan McIntyre is doing for CEC/DVH and bring the critical matters to the Board's attention. She will submit articles to Mary Lou for AWARENESS

and is willing to serve as a NAPVI/ACBP liaison "bridge-building" person.

Eileen Hudson stated that she will redo the eye conditions book and have it checked by a licensed ophthalmologist. She will submit a letter from herself and her two children to the upcoming special edition of AWARENESS, titled "Why Join NAPVI?" She also plans to pursue the idea of a workshop in Wisconsin by contacting Dena Jaffe, who is working on a preschool project in Illinois and is considering moving it into Wisconsin, as well. She also plans to send NAPVI membership forms to Supt. Richard Hyer of the Georgia School for the Blind, who requested them of her.

Lee Robinson recommended that the NAPVI Board make an effort to let doctors know that NAPVI exists; possibly through the use of a descriptive calendar. No action was taken.

Laura Vidal agreed to work with Keitha Robinson on an advertising "blurb" about NAPVI and to consult with a friend who is in advertising to see if he has additional ideas NAPVI might utilize. She will work with Liz Hartman and Fay Corey on the Nominations Committee. She also agreed to recruit one hundred new members by 1984 and to help two provisional affiliate groups in her New York area. Laura also agreed to have a draft of a Spanish version of the NAPVI membership brochure by Feb. 1, 1984. She agreed also to write something in Spanish for each edition of AWARENESS, as well. She will send the minutes for this session on time to Linda Katskee.

Jeanie Flack has agreed to recruit 50 new members by November, 1984. She will write to Ronnie Milsap's manager and to Guideposts magazine. She also will get a free advertisement about NAPVI on NBC's Today show and also will submit her personal story to other magazines. She will also approach her local Lions Club for funds, as well. She will work on the Affiliations Committee.

Fay Corey has agreed to act as editor for the special AWARENESS edition, Why Join NAPVI?, voicing the hope that her local parent group will donate \$500 toward the project. (Article submission deadline for the special edition is December 15, 1983 and all material should be sent to Mrs. Corey.) She will target the Catholic population in Pennsylvania in order to achieve her 50 new members goal. She will work with Liz Hartman and Laura Vidal on the nominations and the eligibility criteria of NAPVI officers.

Mary Lou Wilkinson will try to meet with Dr. Jim Fowler, current president of Lions International. She will also write a letter to "Dear Heloise" with hints for the handicapped from NAPVI.

Elaine Moses and Lee Robinson will work on the bylaws with Mrs. Hartman.

Laura Vidal suggested that a brief statement from P.L. 94-142, perhaps "Every child should have a free and public education in the least restrictive environment," should be in every issue of AWARENESS.

Lee Robinson stated he hopes the fund-raiser will find monies for a traveling display and for travel funds in order that Board members could attend important conferences in the field, such as AEVH, CEC, etc. He also suggested that NAPVI could use funds to conduct leadership training workshops, working with 10 to 12 parents for two to three days.

Henry Hedgecock, who is a member of the Fund-raising Committee, along with Chairman Eileen Hudson and Gale Hedgecock, asked that Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Hartman and Mrs. Moses meet in Austin to prioritize this list and distribute it to the Board by November 30, 1984.

Mr. Hedgecock then suggested that any Board member having a serious problem or illness which could affect the work they do for NAPVI contact the Board president, who in turn will notify all Board members.

The Board then turned to a discussion of procedures for nominating individuals for Outstanding Service. Nominations should be made to Fay Corey, who in turn will send a form to the individual making the nomination. The form will request information relevant to the nomination. When returned to Mrs. Corey, the form will be circulated to the Board for vote. The suggestion was made that the national conference would be an excellent opportunity in which to make this award.

The Board also asked that President Jacqueline Carroll send a congratulatory card from them to the Connecticut Parents Association, which has established its own statewide office.

In discussion of the formation of a Technical/Advisory Board for NAPVI, Laura Vidal agreed to contact a professional she knows who serves on such a Board to establish what criteria is used by that Board.

Those present authorized Lee Robinson and Henry Hedgecock to search out a long distance service which would be compatible with the needs of the Board.

Eileen Hudson moved that the next annual Board meeting be held in Austin, Texas. It was seconded by Fay Corey and the motion carried.

A motion was made, seconded and carried stating the Jacqueline Carroll retain her office of president.

In a final action, the motion to place \$500 dollars from the conference/workshop budget into the office supply budget was made, seconded and carried.

The meeting was adjourned by Henry Hedgecock.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Hudson

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(11p)

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED INC.

November 3-6, 1983

The annual board meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired Inc. was called to order by Henry Hedgecock, acting president due to the absence of the President, Jacqueline Carroll and the vice president, Elaine Moses Puryear on Thursday, November 3, 1983 at 8:45 a.m.

Those board members present included Fay Corey, Jeanie Flack, Liz Hartman, Eileen Hudson, Laura Vidal, Linda Katskee, and Mary Lou Wilkinson. Others present included Gail Hedgecock, guest spouse; Dr. Lee Robinson, executive director of NAPVI and Dr. Kay Ferrell, AFB liaison.

The minutes from the previous board meeting and executive board meetings were discussed with spelling errors noted. With these corrections, Mrs. Hartman moved to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Mrs. Corey, voted on and passed.

Mr. Hedgecock then asked for individual reports from those present at the meeting.

Mrs. Corey reported for the Nominations Committee and congratulated Liz Hartman on being re-elected as member-at-large.

Mrs. Vidal stated that a parent-support group, which has expressed an interest in joining NAPVI, has formed in New York City.

The annual meeting of the American Printing House for the Blind was attended by Mrs. Hudson in October, 1983. She spoke at meetings attended by state school for the blind supervisors and state vision consultants. Mrs. Hudson also attended a leadership committee meeting and reported that they are planning a seminar in Washington D.C. on February 23-26, 1984; topic being "Excellence in Education for Visually Impaired Children." Dr. Ferrell suggested that this information be included in the next newsletter. It was also suggested that NAPVI board members be present at this meeting. Those representatives tentatively include Mr. Hedgecock, Ms. Vidal, Mrs. Hartman, and Mrs. Corey. Mrs. Hudson stated that the main theme of the APH meeting was computer technology and asked the Board to consider becoming a clearinghouse of accurate information about computers, being careful ~~to~~ not to endorse any particular name. She also suggested that NAPVI encourage parents to obtain social security numbers for their visually impaired children to facilitate identification of such children throughout the U.S. in the future. *put in Newsletter*

Mrs. Hudson also reported on a NAPVI publication about eye conditions that she is currently writing. She stated that it will include a definition of the condition, prescribed treatment, and suggestions to help ease the condition. Before Mrs. Hudson passes this booklet on to a professional for his/her approval, she asked for board members to read and offer suggestions. Those selected were Mrs. Stotland and Mrs. Wilkinson.

Mrs. Hartman passed around two articles printed about her son and his interest in computers, one that appeared in a publication of The Weekly Reader. She reported that revisions of NAPVI'S bylaws are

continually being reviewed. Mrs. Hartman then addressed a question reflecting the minutes of the executive board meeting in July of 1983 concerning a bylaws committee consisting of executive board members. It was explained that this committee was only temporary to function at this said meeting to rewrite a bylaw concerning board elections to take place before this annual board meeting. Mrs. Hartman requested another board member to be on this committee - Mrs. Corey was chosen.

Mrs. Wilkinson reported that she was a panel member representing NAPVI at an Arkansas AAWB-AEVH meeting recently. She then reported on the newsletter, stating that the executive office is seeking a new publisher. She also asked for articles on legislative matters. It was suggested that she contact AFB to receive their "Weekly Review" on legislation concerning handicapping conditions, especially the visually impaired. Other suggestions included a pamphlet to be written including all of the ideas from the "Hints" column; activities of board members; and a current list of board members, with their addresses and phone numbers. Dr. Robinson asked the Board to consider whether to provide the newsletter in the future free to individuals who request it or the Board feels should receive it. It was suggested that the Board once again consider subscription rates for the newsletter.

Mrs. Stotland reported on a possible meeting in California in March with the California Transcribers of the Visually Impaired, which has asked for assistance from Mrs. Stotland. She also introduced the subject of the response from the parent organization of the ACB. Mrs. Hudson stated that she had not as yet received the signed joint statement from Gretchen Smith. Dr. Robinson said that

the executive office had just received a response from Bonnie Adams of California stating their reasons for not signing the joint statement. It was suggested that Mrs. Stotland and Mrs. Adams rewrite the statement. This topic will be discussed further with consideration of NAPVI'S relationship with other organizations.

Mrs. Katskee reported that the Omaha parent group has begun affiliation procedures. She also stated that the parent group from the state school has expressed an interest in affiliating.

Mrs. Flack reported on the raffle that she took charge of this past summer, stating that \$330.37 was cleared. She also explained her family's possibility of filing due process over her son's educational rights in Montana.

Mr. Hedgecock provided the Board with the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Hedgecock moved to accept the report. It was seconded by Mrs. Stotland, voted on and passed. Mr. Hedgecock also moved to purchase the secretary a tape recorder. This was voted on and seconded by Mrs. Katskee and passed. Mr. Hedgecock moved to purchase the executive office a telephone answering service. This was voted on, seconded by Mrs. Katskee, and passed. Ms. Vidal moved to spend less than \$150 for the answering service. It was seconded by Mrs. Hartman, voted on and passed.

Dr. Ferrell reported that the AFB Directry of Services to the Visually Handicapped will be available by the end of the year. There is a special section on preschool programs available in this directory.

The financial report of NAPVI'S disbursement of the AFB grant monies was then given by Dr. Ferrell. She suggested that in order to

keep expenses lower, more comparison shopping was needed. Also, Dr. Ferrell suggested an amendment to the previous minutes to lower the \$1,000.00 expense account given to the executive director without Board approval. Dr. Ferrell read proposals given to the Board to consider from Dr. Susan Spungin, assistant director of the American Foundation for the Blind, in order to keep NAPVI viable as a parent support group. They read as follows: (1) developing a grand scale fund raising effort with 1983-84 grant monies to carry the organization on financially after the AFB grant has expired in June of 1984; (2) merge with another national organization, or (3) move the executive office into an office space available at the American Foundation for the Blind to share services. Much discussion followed in considering these proposals, with a motion made by Mrs. Stotland stating that NAPVI use monies from the remaining funding cycle to not affiliate with another national parent group. Mrs. Hudson seconded the motion, voted on and passed. Another motion was made by Mrs. Stotland stating that NAPVI will not contemplate moving the executive office to AFB headquarters at this time. It was seconded by Ms. Vidal, voted on and passed.

An account of the Helen Keller Seminar was given. Those attending included Dr. Ferrell, Mrs. Stotland, and Mr. Hedgecock. It was reported that Mrs. Stotland had submitted a paper on "Parent and Professionals" and her entry was chosen as a winner.

Dr. Robinson gave a report on his executive duties which included an overall presentation of the activity summary from the executive board meeting in July. These included:

1) Fund-raising. The committee had contacted other fund-raising

consultants and had chosen O'Brien and Associates. Step 1 is currently in progress, with Step 2 involving soliciting names of possible donors from NAPVI members.

- 2) Arrangements for annual board meeting in November - completed.
- 3) Free office-space. None found as of yet.
- 4) Post office box - completed.
- 5) CAPVI/JAC computer. An attorney was consulted with concern expressed over protecting NAPVI'S tax-exempt status. The initial proposal was submitted to Apple with regards taken toward the tax status. This proposal was not accepted, but Mrs. Stotland stated that another will be submitted.
- 6) Annual report - yet to be completed.
- 7) Bylaw amendment - completed.
- 8) Internship with UT - a grant will be submitted to the Office of Education at U of T which will enable graduate students in the teacher preparation course for visually impaired programs to assist with the operation of the executive office.
- 9) Membership drive - a goal for all to work on.
- 10) Proposal to Apple Computer - not done but will continue to pursue.
- 11) Newsletter (free copies) - a list started but will need to be expanded upon.
- 12) \$4,000 CD - completed.
- 13) "Exceptional Parent" article - Mrs. Carroll will complete.
- 14) APH annual meeting - completed.
- 15) Office Procedures Manual - committee will present later.
- 16) Workshops - Dr. Robinson reminded the group to consider NAPVI'S

finances before committing to an area. One to be considered in Washington D.C.

17) JVIB ad - completed and will appear in November's issue.

18) Migel Library - completed.

19) Alliance list - this was approved.

20) Central Travel Agent - completed with positive comments.

21) "Reach Out and Teach" to Research and Review Committee (R&R).

Not all committee members have copies yet.

22) AFB opinion of O'Brien and Associates. Ms. Martucci's

recommendations included grammatical errors to be eliminated in future correspondence and a rather high estimated gross in fund raising.

23) Fund-raising consultants in Austin - found but not as feasible.

24) Purchase of "A Little Bit More Than Love" - not completed.

25) Position paper with DVH/CEC - written but needs to be read by a committee and either approved or rewritten and then sent to DVH/CEC.

26) Workshop folders - completed.

27, 28 and 28) Concerning used office equipment availability - completed, with shipping cost outweighing feasibility.

30) Uslan survey to R&R committee - recommendations have been made and sent to Mark Uslan. Committee will consider future requests.

31) Connecticut Parent Group - to be completed. - *Done*

32) Personnel letters of agreement for employment - completed and signed

33) Signature stamp for president - completed.

Dr. Robinson then presented his recommendations to the Board.

4 They include: 1) Select a technical advisory committee to oversee the membership drive. 2) The Board is to consider another method of saving telephone costs besides AFB's Sprint code, which is currently being used at the executive office. This does not reach to all communities and would not be available to board members to use in their NAPVI telephone communications; and 3) A committee is needed to develop a public release about NAPVI projecting its image now that other parent groups are forming in the target area.

Mr. Hedgecock adjourned the meeting for the day.

The meeting was re-opened on Friday, November 4, at 10:30 a.m. by Mr. Hedgecock. Dr. Robinson explained the agenda for the weekend workshop. Mr. Hedgecock then asked for committee and project reports, assigned previously.

Mrs. Hartman made her suggestions for the bylaws committee, which including considering the possibility of electing a second vice president. Discussion followed on such topics as the annual membership meeting, annual board meeting, election of officers, and eligibility of officers. Mrs. Puryear and Dr. Robinson were also appointed to this committee.

elect
what
cross
LP etc

Mrs. Wilkinson reported on the booklet about eye diseases. The format was read on the description of, modification and adjustments needed, treatment if possible, diagram of the eye with a definition of parts, glossary, acknowledgements to professionals, and recommended reading. A suggestion was made to print this information in pamphlet form.

Also considered by this committee was the position paper written

by Dr. Robinson to submit to the Division of the Visually Handicapped of the Council of Exceptional Children. Mrs. Wilkinson moved to accept "The Active Role of Parents in Education of the Visually Impaired." It was seconded by Mrs. Hudson. Discussion followed, with Dr. Ferrell suggesting that since DVH/CEC uses the phrase "visually handicapped" instead of "visually impaired", that NAPVI should use this phrase also in its position paper. Mrs. Stotland moved to amend the previous motion to read "the NAPVI board moves to accept "The Active Role of Parents of the Visually Handicapped" by Dr. Robinson as NAPVI'S position paper for submission to DVH/CEC for publication. It was seconded by Mrs. Hudson, voted on and passed. Mrs. Wilkinson also stated that the committee ~~draft~~ draft a personal letter to be sent to "Ann Landers" and "Dear Abby" with information about NAPVI.

Public relations was discussed, including contacting national magazines with information about NAPVI along with a cover letter. It was suggested that a previous statement written be included with this information that could be used as an advertising statement about NAPVI. The committee submitted a list of suggested magazines to be contacted by the executive office by March 1, 1984. Ms. Vidal was asked to assist the executive secretary in rewriting this statement.

The committee report for the preparation of an office procedures manual was given by Dr. Ferrell. She stressed the importance of such a format. Many topics were discussed as the reorganized manual was read. Those included:

- 1) Disbanding one of two existing petty cash funds, that one being the one provided by AFB grant monies.

- 2) Three hundred dollars (\$300) is to be kept in a petty cash box to be purchased and receipts kept and submitted;
- 3) Budgeted and unbudgeted expenses;
- 4) Three estimates needed on expenses over \$250;
- 5) Travel reimbursements;
- 6) Expenses submitted within thirty (30) days;
- 7) Accounts receivable ledger;
- 8) Mailing procedures;
- 9) Secretarial minutes and assignment lists completed within thirty days of said meeting;
- 10) Annual report from executive director; ^{7.11.83 (not letter)} - Quarterly? More content
- 11) And carbon copies versus print copies.

Ms. Vidal made a motion to circulate a draft of the office procedures manual to each board member for their approval or suggestions of each section to be returned by December 1, 1983. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hudson, voted on and passed.

Mrs. Corey reported for the committee considering membership and affiliation. Concern had been expressed in the past over specific needs of blind children, especially the multihandicapped. The committee felt that the best way to address such concerns would be through the next issue of the newsletter. Their recommendations included 1) a Who's Who section, with one article written by Mrs. Corey about the multihandicapped blind child, another by Mrs. Hudson expressing her thoughts of having one visually impaired child in a residential program and another visually impaired child being mainstreamed, and another article written by a parent of a pre-school

visually impaired child; 2) A request for names and addresses of parents not yet aware of or members of NAPVI; 3) The names, addresses and phone numbers of board members inserted on a detached sheet allowing for later board changes; and 4) a summary of the board meeting and area parent workshop also on a detachable sheet. The suggested theme of this newsletter will be "Reach out and Unify." Mrs. Stotland made a motion to incorporate these suggestions into the February issue of the newsletter, to be used as a vehicle for increasing membership. It was seconded by Mrs. Hudson. Discussion followed with Mrs. Wilkinson, editor, expressing concern over her position in this publication. The motion was voted on and passed.

Mr. Hedgecock reminded the Board that, with the possibility of an increased production of such a newsletter, the fiscal budget will need to be modified. Mrs. Corey made a recommendation to print 5,000 copies of this particular newsletter. It was seconded by Mrs. Flack, voted on and passed.

The committee then made its recommendations on the Affiliation Procedure. They suggested that an affiliation committee be appointed which will assist a group desiring to affiliate with NAPVI. For one year after the affiliation procedure is completed, the said group will remain a "provisional" affiliate, reporting to the committee quarterly during this period. Other suggestions by the committee included: (1) No printed material from the affiliate is to use the NAPVI name or logo without committee approval, (2) An invitation to each affiliation to send a delegate to the annual membership meeting is to be extended with no reimbursement provided by NAPVI, and (3) Speaker bureau information is to be made available. A question was

presented about the affiliate using NAPVI's tax-exempt status. Mr. Hedgecock explained the legality of such a service with Dr. Robinson suggesting that NAPVI could offer to its affiliates a bulk mailing rate, with that affiliate reimbursing NAPVI. Mrs. Stotland moved to create a category of "provisional" affiliate for a minimum of one year, incorporating suggested rules and services, to the existing affiliation procedure. It was seconded by Mrs. Hudson, voted on and passed.

The topic of obtaining office space was then discussed. The Board was reminded that free office space had not yet been found, so the possibility of renting space was discussed. Mrs. Hartman made a motion to contact Michael Twombly of Texas Society of Autistic Citizen in Austin, Texas, to propose to them the possibility of sharing office space, renting for no more than \$240. Mrs. Flack seconded the motion. It as voted on and passed. Mr. Hedgecock asked Mrs. Puryear, Mrs. Hartman and Dr. Robinson to continue their search for office space. Mrs. Hudson made a motion to use the judgement of Mrs. Puryear, Mrs. Hartman and Dr. Robinson in selecting either free or rental office space to not exceed \$240 in Austin, Texas. This was seconded by Mrs. Flack, voted on and passed.

Mr. Hedgecock asked for the Board's thoughts on the topic of fund raising. Discussion followed with Mrs. Hudson making a motion to continue on with the present fund-raising organization and begin Phase II. This was seconded by Mrs. Stotland, voted on and passed.

The topic of publication pricing was discussed. Mr. Hedgecock suggested raising the prices of NAPVI publications after their next printing. Also suggested was to change the cover of Parents to the

Rescue.

Another topic discussed was subscription rates to the newsletter. A motion was made by Mrs. Hudson to accept individual subscription rates to Awareness and charge \$6.00 for such subscription. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Flack, voted on and passed.

Mr. Hedgecock appointed Ms. Vidal to assume the duties of secretary for the remainder of this board meeting in the absence of Mrs. Katskee. He also appointed Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Corey to replace Mrs. Puryear on the area workshop agenda.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Katskee
Secretary

*Note: These minutes do not include the actions of the Board Sunday Morning, November 6, 1983.

1983 NAPVII Financial Report

Checking Account

| | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beginning balance 8/27/82 | | | \$ 619.90 |
| Contributions | \$ 4280.25 | \$ 575.00 | 3705.25 |
| Dues | 3629.80 | 157.00 | 3472.80 |
| Bank Charges | 0.00 | 30.30 | (30.30) |
| Lunch and registration | 274.50 | 361.38 | (86.88) |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 35.00 | (35.00) |
| Phone | 0.00 | 737.55 | (737.55) |
| Postage | 46.37 | 1456.40 | (1410.03) |
| Publications | 969.00 | 212.10 | 756.90 |
| Supplies | 0.00 | 187.42 | (187.42) |
| Travel | 500.00 | 33.60 | 466.40 |
| Transfers to/from Savings | 0.00 | 4226.45 | (4226.45) |
| Outside services | 0.00 | 542.62 | (542.62) |
| | <u>9699.92</u> | <u>8554.82</u> | |
| Ending balance 8/31/83 | | | <u>1765.00</u> |

Savings Account

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| Beginning balance 8/27/82 | | | 4516.92 |
| Transfers to/from checking | \$ 4226.45 | \$ 0.00 | 4226.45 |
| Interest | <u>257.83</u> | <u>0.00</u> | 257.83 |
| | <u>4484.28</u> | <u>0.00</u> | |
| Ending balance 8/31/83 | | | <u>9001.20**</u> |

** Ending balance of savings account includes the following Certificates of Deposit:

#182584 \$2500.00 7 Day Certificate
 #182585 \$4000.00 6 Months Certificate

Interest earned on Certificates: \$8.02 to date

I verify that the books and records of NAPVII are correct and up-to-date as of August 31, 1983.

Donna J. Ford
 Donna J. Ford

Henry H. Hedgecock
 Henry H. Hedgecock
 Treasurer NAPVII

Contributions:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Charity Grandmothers Inc. | \$ | 20.00 |
| Omaha Drove #1 Benevolent, | | |
| Patriotic Order of Does | | 50.00 |
| Herman Hartman | | 47.00 |
| Jeffrey J. Patterson | | 5.00 |
| William H. Horah | | 20.00 |
| Emilie M. Kief | | 2.00 |
| Alpha Phi Omega | | 58.50 |
| Calvery Luthern Church | | 100.00 |
| Leslie & Mark Rosenstock | | 10.00 |
| Linda Katskee, Honorarium | | 31.75 |
| American Foundation for the Blind | | 2534.00 |
| Grover W. Hedgecock | | 500.00 |
| Susan Spungin, Ed. D. | | 2.00 |
| NAPVII Fund Raising | | |
| Total receipts | \$900.00 | |
| Total prizes | <u>575.00</u> | |
| | | <u>325.00</u> |
| | | 3705.25 |

Henry H. Hedgecock

NAPVI Expenses on AFB Grant

July 1, 1982 - June 30, 1983

Travel & per diem: \$8787.68

| | |
|---|---------|
| AEVH Conference (Robinson) | 715.78 |
| Montana (Crandell) | 363.25 |
| Arizona (Smith) | 298.00 |
| APH Annual Meeting (Robinson, Katskee) | 503.35 |
| New York (Robinson) | 243.35 |
| Migel Awards (Carroll) | 163.03 |
| NAPVI Board | 4730.59 |
| St. Louis (Davidow) | 404.38 |
| Colorado (Robinson) | 94.95 |
| AFB (Carroll, Hedgecock) | 502.20 |
| California (Carroll) | 406.90 |
| Ohio (Robinson) | 361.90 |

Printing & photocopying: \$4355.37

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Newsletters | 2727.30 |
| Publications, stationary | 1018.22 |
| Photocopying | 609.85 |

Secretarial: \$1915.00

Petty cash fund: \$ 300.00

Postage: \$ 244.83

Meeting expenses: 237.40

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| St. Louis (reception) | 124.25 |
| AFB (lunch) | 13.15 |
| Honorarium (Crandell) | 100.00 |

Miscellaneous: \$ 128.16

Telephone: \$ 44.68

TOTAL \$16,013.12

Supplementary Information

Meeting Expenses

| | | |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|
| 5/82 | Arizona | \$ 298.00 |
| 7/82 | AEVH | 715.78 |
| 8/82 | Montana Parents | 463.25 |
| 10/82 | APH Annual Meeting | 503.35 |
| 10/82 | New York Parents | 243.35 |
| 10/82 | Migel Awards | 163.03 |
| 11/82 | Board of Directors | 4730.89 |
| 11/82 | St. Louis Parents | 528.63 |
| 1/83 | Colorado | 94.95 |
| 3/83 | AFB | 515.35 |
| 3/83 | California Parents | 406.90 |
| 4/83 | Ohio Parents | 361.90 |

TOTAL \$9025.08

Month-by-Month Expenditures

| | | | |
|-------|---------|------|-----------|
| 7/82 | 715.78 | 1/83 | \$ 533.55 |
| 8/82 | 1511.25 | 2/83 | 1026.70 |
| 9/82 | 554.74 | 3/83 | 2150.08 |
| 10/82 | 1498.80 | 4/83 | 521.90 |
| 11/82 | 4403.87 | 5/83 | 577.34 |
| 12/82 | 1687.25 | 6/83 | 831.86 |

TOTAL \$16,013.12

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF
THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

AFB GRANT EXPENSES
1982-1983

| TE | PAID TO | AMOUNT | BALANCE | TRAVEL | SEC'Y PRINTING | POSTAGE | MTGS TELEPH'N ADVANCES | MISC |
|------|---------------------|---------|----------|--------|----------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| 82 | | | 18000.00 | | | | | |
| 82 | LEE ROBINSON | 715.78 | 17284.22 | 715.78 | | | | |
| | | | 17284.22 | | | | | |
| 5-82 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 750.00 | 16534.22 | | 750.00 | | | |
| 82 | JOHN CRANDALL | 463.25 | 16070.97 | 363.25 | | | 100.00 | |
| 82 | AUDREY SMITH | 298.00 | 15772.97 | 298.00 | | | | |
| | | | 15772.97 | | | | | |
| 2 | LEE ROBINSON | 225.00 | 15547.97 | | | | | 225.00 |
| 30 | KWIK KOPY | 554.74 | 14993.23 | | 554.74 | | | |
| | | | 14993.23 | | | | | |
| -1 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 66.48 | 14926.75 | | 66.48 | | | |
| -4 | LEE ROBINSON | 74.62 | 14852.13 | | | 63.80 | | 10.82 |
| -13 | LAURA VIDAL | 500.00 | 14352.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| -14 | JEANNIE FLACK | 300.00 | 14052.13 | 300.00 | | | | |
| -15 | FAY COREY | 600.00 | 13452.13 | | | | 600.00 | |
| -19 | LEE ROBINSON | 500.00 | 12952.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| -19 | EILEEN HUDSON | 500.00 | 12452.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| -19 | LINDA KATSKEE | 459.55 | 11992.58 | 459.55 | | | | |
| -19 | LINDA KATSKEE | 200.00 | 11792.58 | | | | 200.00 | |
| -24 | LEE ROBINSON | 98.00 | 11694.58 | 98.00 | | | | |
| -24 | LEE ROBINSON | | 11694.58 | 145.35 | | | -145.35 | |
| | JEANNIE FLACK CC | 311.00 | 11383.58 | 311.00 | | | | |
| | | | 11383.58 | | | | | |
| -7 | LEE ROBINSON | 248.00 | 11135.58 | 248.00 | | | | |
| -7 | LEE ROBINSON | | 11135.58 | 237.00 | | | 124.25 | -361.25 |
| -7 | ELAINE MOSES | 485.76 | 10649.82 | 485.76 | | | | |
| -8 | HENRY HEDGECK | 595.35 | 10054.47 | 595.35 | | | | |
| -8 | GALE HEDGECK | 432.97 | 9621.50 | 432.97 | | | | |
| -8 | MARY LOU WILKINSON | 356.82 | 9264.68 | 356.82 | | | | |
| -15 | JACKIE CARROLL | 473.83 | 8790.85 | 473.83 | | | | |
| -15 | JACKIE CARROLL | 163.03 | 8627.82 | 163.03 | | | | |
| -19 | FAY COREY CR | -600.00 | 9227.82 | | | | -600.00 | |
| -22 | LINDA KATSKEE | 236.26 | 8991.56 | 436.26 | | | -200.00 | |
| -30 | EILEEN HUDSON CR | -131.20 | 9122.76 | 368.80 | | | -500.00 | |
| | | | 9122.76 | | | | | |
| 6 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 212.67 | 8910.09 | | 212.67 | | | |
| 6 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 325.00 | 8585.09 | | 325.00 | | | |
| 8 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 580.98 | 8004.11 | | 580.98 | | | |
| 21 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 164.22 | 7839.89 | | 164.22 | | | |
| 21 | MAE DAVIDOW | 404.38 | 7435.51 | 404.38 | | | | |
| | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| 9 | LEE ROBINSON | 438.60 | 6996.91 | | 261.60 | 177.00 | | |
| | | | 6996.91 | | | | | |
| | KWIK KOPY | 826.70 | 6170.21 | | 826.70 | | | |
| | KEITHA'S TYPING SVC | 200.00 | 5970.21 | | 200.00 | | | |
| | LAURA VIDAL CR | -15.20 | 5985.41 | 484.80 | | | -500.00 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--|---------|--|
| | | 5985.41 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | JACKIE CARROLL | 300.00 | 5685.41 | | | | | 300.00 | |
| 2 | ANGEL VASQUEZ | 13.15 | 5672.26 | | | 13.15 | | | |
| 3 | GALE HEDGECOCK | 312.15 | 5360.11 | 312.15 | | | | | |
| | JACKIE CARROLL | 190.05 | 5170.06 | 190.05 | | | | | |
| | LEE ROBINSON | | 5170.06 | 138.75 | | | | -138.75 | |
| 4 | LEE ROBINSON CR | -79.65 | 5249.71 | | | | | -79.65 | |
| 15 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 320.00 | 4929.71 | | 320.00 | | | | |
| 23 | JACKIE CARROLL | 106.90 | 4822.81 | 406.90 | | | | -300.00 | |
| 28 | LEE ROBINSON | 69.10 | 4753.71 | | | 69.10 | | | |
| 28 | VANTAGE PRINTING | 172.97 | 4580.74 | | | 172.97 | | | |
| 28 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 662.76 | 3917.98 | | | 662.76 | | | |
| | | | 3917.98 | | | | | | |
| 12 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 160.00 | 3757.98 | | 160.00 | | | | |
| 12 | LEE ROBINSON | 375.00 | 3382.98 | | | | | 375.00 | |
| | | | 3382.98 | | | | | | |
| 6 | LEE ROBINSON | 290.00 | 3092.98 | 290.00 | | | | | |
| 6 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 160.00 | 2932.98 | | 160.00 | | | | |
| 6 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 300.00 | 2632.98 | | | | | 300.00 | |
| 16 | LEE ROBINSON EF | -303.10 | 2936.08 | 71.90 | | | | -375.00 | |
| 16 | M.L.WILKINSON | 117.34 | 2818.74 | | | | | 117.34 | |
| | | | 2818.74 | | | | | | |
| 2 | JACKIE CARROLL | 48.71 | 2770.03 | | | 4.03 | | 44.68 | |
| 16 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 764.60 | 2005.43 | | | 764.60 | | | |
| 16 | KWIK KOPY | 18.55 | 1986.88 | | | 18.55 | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|------|--------|----------|
| TOTALS | 16013.12 | 1986.88 | 8787.68 | 1915.00 | 4355.37 | 244.83 | 237.40 | 44.68 | 0.00 | 428.16 | 16013.12 |
|--------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|------|--------|----------|

TOTAL AMOUNT + BAL 16000.00

TOTAL

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

July 19-22, 1984

The Executive Committee of NAPVI'S meeting was called to order by Jacqueline Carroll, president, on Thursday, July 19, 1984 at 4:00 p.m. Present were Elaine Moses Puryear, vice president; Henry Hedgecock, treasurer; and Judi Stotland, board member, acting as secretary. Also present were Gail Hedgecock, guest spouse; Dr. Lee Robinson, executive director of NAPVI; and Keitha Robinson, NAPVI office secretary.

Discussion was held regarding the need for a quarterly internal memo to be circulated among the Board Members. The memo is to include: new and renewal membership lists for the quarter by region; activities of Board Members, including progress reports and individual and committee assignments; activities of the national office and the executive director, including progress reports on assignments. It was suggested tha the office should issue report request forms as a reminder to Board Members that reports are due. It was also suggested that the Board member-at-large should assist with reminding Board Members to submit reports in a timely fashion.

There has been enormous positive feedback on the "Why Join NAPVI?" newsletter insert, and it has been reprinted twice. Dr.

Robinson suggested that inserts of similar format might be created from time to time. Topics suggested were: technology; low vision aids; preparation for college.

Mrs. Carroll read a letter of resignation due to health reasons from Linda Katskee, NAPVI secretary, dated 6/6/84. Mrs. Carroll also reported receiving a telephone call on or about 6/11/84 from Liz Hartman, Board member-at-large, stating her need to resign for personal and family reasons. She attended the Executive Committee Meeting on 7/20/84 to report her work on the bylaws and submitted a written resignation at that time. Mrs. Puryear and Dr. Robinson were designated by the committee to obtain a plaque for the outgoing officers in appreciate for the work they have done. The estimated cost for each is \$15.00. It was recommended that this be done routinely in future.

Mrs. Carroll reported a suggestion by Board Member Fay Corey that we expand the number of regional board members to provide greater representation. The committee decided that while the suggestion has merit, it is not economically feasible at this time. *effect
to be done*

Mrs. Carroll suggested a letter be sent to affiliates to submit nominees for Board positions as appropriate. This was incorporated into the new affiliate procedures. Mrs. Corey is requested to add this to nominations criteria.

Fund Raiser Shawn O'Brien was to have met with us, but could not due to a business emergency. Dr. Robinson reported that his projection of \$17,000 to be raised by direct member appeal had fallen far short of the mark. He had estimated a higher amount per response, and a 40% response. We actually received 20%

return, and have netted between \$2,000 - \$3,000. Questions raised by the fundraiser were (1) Do members feel they are not getting value for the money? (2) Is our membership population different than others he has contacted? It was the consensus of the Committee that families have many expenses with handicapped children, and do not have the money that other groups may have.

Mr. Hedgecock suggested establishing a scholarship fund, and seeking grants for regional workshops. It was stated that NAPVI needs to know about the fund raising source and its budget requirements and restrictions.

Mrs. Stotland reported on national legislative issues. Specific bills will be reported in the next AWARENESS. Mrs. Stotland will draft a proposal for a NAPVI resolution on the issue of VH teacher shortages for the November Board Meeting.

All Board members are requested to bring draft proposals of issues of their concern in as complete a form as possible for consideration by the NAPVI Board at November meetings in order to save time and effort at the meeting.

Mrs. Carroll adjourned the meeting for the day at 8:45 ~~a.m.~~

The meeting of 7/20/84 was called to order at 8:45 a.m.

Mrs. Carroll thanked Mrs. Robinson for meeting Mrs. Stotland and herself at the airport and Dr. and Mrs. Robinson for preparing the new office for our meeting.

Dr. Robinson circulated for consideration by the Committee computer membership printouts in various formats. He discussed the 3-year plan and budget previously circulated to the Board incorporating suggestions of Fund Raiser O'Brien as to costs of

development and implementation. It is anticipated that this plan and budget will be used in corporate fund raising efforts. Dr. Robinson corrected 1985 Plan's Budget from \$114,000 to \$98,000 due to some duplications in costing.

Dr. Robinson gave a membership summary. We have a 46% retention rate over the years. The current printout shows dues and contributions in some cases. This is being weeded out, but we are retaining a listing of contributors for IRS purposes. Board members will receive a full printout by region at the November meetings, and quarterly regional updates. There is a list of individuals who inquire about NAPVI. Mrs. Hedgecock suggested mailing "Why Join NAPVI?", a membership form, and a cover letter to inquirers saying we need to charge for mailings. This list could also be used for fund raising. Mrs. Stotland suggested a separate cover letter be drawn for inquirers identified as teachers asking them to share with parents they know.

Dr. Robinson submitted an inventory of office equipment and supplies owned by NAPVI. Equipment is: NAPVI display; paper file; 4-drawer ^{metal} file cabinet; telephone patch to recorder; ^{connector} seal; cassette recorder; postage scale; cash box; varying amounts of printed materials and envelopes.

Dr. Robinson reported on office status. We had contracted to pay \$250. Cost at former location was \$575/mo. for 1400 sq. ft. (\$.40/sq. ft.); current location is \$795/mo. for 936 sq.ft. (\$.85/sq. ft.) including a utility allowance. Move was necessitated by former owner's cancelling our sublease; new location is better quality. If we maintain \$250, it would buy one room in new office, but there would be some intermingling with the

Robinsons' other businesses. Listings on office door will be: Keitha's Typing Service; Busywork Place; Parent Consultants; NAPVI and logo. We still need to seek our own office equipment, but can use the Robinsons' for the time being.

Dr. Robinson felt we need to consider raising the secretarial salary. Usage currently exceeds 1/2 time, and the \$500/mo. we currently pay is less than normal 1/2 time pay. Mrs. Puryear is to call and verify Dr. Robinson's estimate that entry-level salary for a state secretary is \$1,300./mo.

We need more personal contact by Board members out in the field, especially workshops. We have had to rely on direct mail this past year to keep our name up.

Mrs. Carroll read a letter from Mrs. Wilkinson regarding her manning NAPVI'S exhibit at the Alliance meeting in Nashville. A free drawing for a briefcase caused people to sign up; names will be added to our mailing list. Great display made by Lee and terrific response and exposure for NAPVI. Thanks to Mrs. Robinson for spending so much time sitting at the booth with Mrs. Wilkinson. We paid \$400 for booth space and collected 331 names, all of whom received a NAPVI membership packet. We have already begun to receive parent memberships from Nashville. Recommend returning to each Alliance meeting.

ACBP responded to draft agreement with request for some changes. Mrs. Stotland was asked to write ACBP requesting a set of bylaws and statement of goals for consideration in November.

The Committee reviewed the program plan sent to the Board by Dr. Robinson prior to this meeting. The term "development" means the cost of raising needed funds. There was much discussion of

the costs of fund raising and available alternatives. The committee authorized Dr. Robinson to develop a contract with Fund Raiser O'Brien wherein he will raise an initial \$20,000 at no cost to NAPVI, with those funds to be used for the costs of future fund raising in which O'Brien will receive 15% commission for any successful efforts. It was decided to limit contribution renewal requests to 2 letters.

Board Member-At-Large Liz Hartman brought her work on NAPVI bylaws to the meeting. The bylaws should be updated reflecting changes from previous minutes.

Dues policy was reiterated from 11/83 meeting. The dues year is the calendar year. New memberships after 11/1 can be credited to the following year. Dues not paid by 3/31 will cause the member to be dropped from membership roll and to cease receiving the newsletter.

The purpose of a Technical Advisory Board was discussed. It is not intended to meet as a group, but to be a resource to NAPVI, and to appear on the letterhead. The Board will identify types of expertise needed, suggest individuals, and finally draft letters of invitation.

Mrs. Puryear will identify assignments for Board members from the 1985 Plan to bring to the 11/84 meeting.

Concern was expressed regarding the Board rotation system in that as presently stated, it is theoretically possible to have 7 new Board members in one year. It was decided to leave rotation as it stands.

The Executive Committee recommends that we not establish a 2nd Vice President at this time.

Mrs. Carroll read a letter from Gail Granados who would accept the responsibilities of Board Member-At-Large if the Board approves. (Mrs. Granados had run for this position and lost by a narrow margin.)

Mrs. Carroll adjourned the meeting for the day.

The meeting of 7/21/84 was called to order at 8:50 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held in Austin 11/1 - 11/4/84. Members are asked to submit agenda items and assignments for Board circulation no later than 9/15/84. The agenda and appropriate materials will be completed by Oct. 1 for distribution and review by Board members prior to meeting.

Regional meetings were suggested as follows: New York - Fall; Portland/Seattle - Winter; Cleveland and Chicago - Spring, with priority to Illinois who has expressed interest. Persons planning regional meetings are reminded to follow timelines in "How to Pack 'Em In." Regional meetings should not be planned, as a rule, in an area where a Board election is pending. Subject suggestions included either an array of interests, e.g. 0-3, technology, multihandicapped, or subjects like legislation that appeal to all groups.

Dr. Robinson suggested that we honor Pauline Moor at an area meeting this year.

Mr. Hedgecock located in the minutes of 1/18/81 the statement that a minimum of 500 Class A members are needed prior to our first election of officers, currently scheduled for 11/85.

The Board training meeting listed in the Plan for 1985 will be postponed to the 1986 fiscal year so that it will benefit the

newly elected members.

Dr. Robinson reported that a gift at renewal time (APH booklet) produced results. Suggestions for future gifts he will explore obtaining: a list of where to obtain religious materials in braille and large print; Ann Corn's AFB publication What to Do When You Have a Visually Handicapped Child in Your Classroom; Hadley's catalogue.

New membership fund raising reviewed. No more than 2 letters will be sent. New members will not receive fund raising appeal until they have received a least 2 issues of AWARENESS. No appeal to be sent during renewal time of January - March, and computer can edit out new members. The Committee suggests the appeal be done on or about Nov. 1 - Dec. 1.

Dr. Robinson will check into the costs of having Mr. Hedgecock's brother print the newsletter after this one, since he offers a substantial discount.

Board members are asked to bring information for sources of information brochure to the November meeting.

Mrs. Corey had asked that the issues of Board member commitment to NAPVI be raised.

A committee needs to review old minutes to assure that everything we have brought up in the past has been done. Mrs. Carroll and Mrs. Puryear will review and check standing committees for vacancies. A committee list should be issued each year with the minutes of the Board meeting.

Assuming the Affiliation Procedures are passed, an Affiliation Packet needs to be assembled, including bylaws, sample bylaws format and How to Pack 'Em In.

The new NAPVI display was discussed as useful for presentation at various meetings. For ophthalmologists, if we can go, it would be useful to add a montage of "our" children. For regional meetings, pictures of Board members might be useful.

The Plan's suggestion of forming a grandparents' group for support and possible fund raising caused Mrs. Puryear to think of approaching her father to see if he'd like to generate a letter for AWARENESS and specifications for such a group.

Dr. Robinson was asked to prepare a display box for NAPVI brochures that parents might be able to place in libraries, doctors' offices, etc.

Board members are asked to bring their yellow notebooks to the November meeting for updating. Members are also asked to submit names of blind adults who can serve as good role models.

Dr. Robinson suggested that procedures be completed for Lifetime Membership categories in time to offer the first to Mae Davidow, who recently requested this at a meeting in St. Louis.

For the November meeting, we need a list of chairmen of standing committees, and procedures written for each committee.

Mr. Hedgecock suggested that in future we may need 2 Executive Committee Meetings - one a planning meeting and a second at 6 months to see what's needed to fulfill planned goals.

Establishing standing committees with representation from each district is not financially feasible at present.

Mrs. Carroll stated that in future the President should visit the national office 4 times a year and maintain frequent phone contact to dovetail with quarterly reports.

A Delta Gamma was suggested for the Technical Advisory Board.

The AFB February meeting in Washington was discussed, and Dr. Robinson was directed to contact Kay Ferrell regarding what sort of NAPVI representation would be appropriate.

The Plan's budget for 1985 includes a \$1500 line for parent training postponed until 1986. Mr. Hedgecock suggested retaining the allocation and earmarking the funds for a scholarship fund. Mr. Hedgecock will supply procedures and suggested uses for consideration in November.

The bylaws were updated per Mrs. Hartman's recommendations, and copies will be circulated to the Board for approval along with these minutes.

The Manual of Procedures as passed by the Board at the 11/83 meeting was reviewed at length, and some alterations were suggested (p.3) substituting "other funding source" for AFB to give document more general usability; Section I.E.2 to read "All purchases greater than \$250 must be accompanied by 3 written estimates unless available from only 1 or 2 sources;" Section I.E.3. to read "Receipts (other than for meals and private car mileage) must be submitted"; Section I.E.4. to read, "Request for travel reimbursement must be made to NAPVI treasurer on NAPVI or other funding source's travel reimbursement form, signed, and accompanied by receipts for travel and lodging, within 30 days of return. Reimbursement should come from NAPVI or other funds as soon as the form has been received"; Section I.E.8. to read "Individuals maintain personal copy of all receipts and expenses submitted"; (p. 4) Section I.F.1.b. "Amount of all funds received from orders"; I.F.1.c. "Amount of all contributions received"; I.F.1.c. changed to I.F.1.d. (p.6) Sect. IIc "Board of Directors

minutes and list of work assignments are prepared by NAPVI secretary or designee and sent to national office." II.C.1 "Retyped, copied, and distributed to Board members by national office within 2 weeks of receipt; IIC3 becomes IIC2; IIC4 eliminated; IIC3 "Executive Director will bring additional copies of minutes to NAPVI meetings."

Dr. Robinson reiterated his position that the manual is acceptable to him as long as the Board understands that the office isn't totally independent of his private business, and that procedures will be implemented as much as possible within that context. He will bring recommendations for change to November meeting after working with the manual for the next several months.

Mrs. Puryear suggests dating copies of forms, etc. so we can keep track of what's current.

Mrs. Carroll adjourned the meeting for the day.

The meeting of 7/23/84 was called to order at 8:45 a.m.

A NAPVI member had written suggesting putting an opportunity to make a donation on the membership renewal form. This idea was approved by the Executive Committee for implementation.

Mr. Hedgecock presented the financial report enclosed.

A Projected Annual Budget, anticipating AFB grant of \$22,000 and NAPVI income from savings, dues, and contributions of \$14,000, was presented by Mr. Hedgecock and approved by the Executive Committee.

Secretary line is increased to \$600 reflecting Dr. Robinson's estimate of 1/2 time salary. Mrs. Robinson currently logs more than 20 hours/week and Dr. Robinson feels she works more than she

logs.

Newsletter will be raised by \$100, although Dr. Robinson will pursue cost savings of Mr. Hedgecock's brother, and decide by the next issue.

With Board approval, Dr. Robinson will draw a new lease agreement.

We are over on postage, having spent \$1,505 with 2 more months to go in this cycle.

Our printing costs were \$4,700.93, but combined printing costs and newsletter we had allowed \$4,900. There is still an inventory of printed materials that will be available for use in 1984-85 year.

Losses reported on annual meeting were covered by not having other area meetings this year.

Reduction in printing estimates reflects a discount for the volume we now print.

Included in Office Supplies is \$150 for purchase of an answering machine.

\$500 telephone and \$300 postage are in the current budget for use of Board members to encourage local communication.

The CEC national meeting will be held in Los Angeles this April. Dr. Robinson will check into feasibility of Mrs. Stotland bringing the NAPVI display there.

Dr. Robinson, Mr. Hedgecock and Mrs. Stotland proposed addition of Article II, Section 13 to bylaws outlining recall procedures to substitute for other language on the subject that had to be removed.

Dr. Robinson noted that updating Bylaws, Manual of Procedures

and Affiliation Procedures culminates, if passed by Board, 5 years of effort. The Board and Executive Director are to be commended for these efforts.

Mrs. Carroll adjourned the July meeting of the Executive Committee, with thanks to all for efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Stotland

Proposals sent to Board members
for October call meeting.
See proposals attached.

1984 NAPVII Financial Report

Checking Account

| | <u>Debits</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Beginning balance 9/1/83 | | | \$ 1765.00 |
| Transfer to/from savings | \$ 5000.00 | \$ 0.00 | 5000.00 |
| Bank Charges | 0.00 | 36.58 | (36.58) |
| Contributions | 7835.50 | 3741.28 | 4094.22 |
| Dues | 2936.20 | 71.40 | 2864.80 |
| Lunch and Registration | 215.50 | 601.27 | (385.77) |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 100.00 | (100.00) |
| Outside Services | 0.00 | 560.00 | (560.00) |
| Phone | 0.00 | 1189.42 | (1189.42) |
| Postage | 83.37 | 1589.30 | (1505.93) |
| Publications (Newsletter & Printing) | 1167.58 | 4796.43 | (3628.85) |
| Supplies | 41.50 | 313.75 | (272.25) |
| Travel | 0.00 | 1371.55 | (1371.55) |
| | <u>17779.65</u> | <u>14870.98</u> | |
| Ending Balance 7/17/84 | | | <u>4673.67</u> |

Savings Account

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Beginning Balance 9/1/83 | | | 9001.20 |
| Transfers to/from checking | \$ 0.00 | \$ 5000.00 | (5000.00) |
| Interest | <u>588.81</u> | <u>0.00</u> | 588.81 |
| | 588.81 | 5000.00 | |
| Ending Balance 7/17/84 | | | <u>4590.01</u> |

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND
GRANT ACCOUNT, 1983-1984

| TE | PAID TO | AMOUNT | RENT | SECRY NEWSLTR | PHONE POSTAGE | SUPLS | ANNUAL MEETING | EXEC MEETING | OTHER COMFS | PRNTG | ABVMCS | BALANCE |
|--------|----------------------|---------|------|---------------|---------------|-------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------|---------|----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 20000.00 |
| JUL 1 | PETTY CASH/ADVANCE | 300.00 | | | | | | | | | 300.00 | 19700.00 |
| JUL 25 | J. CARROLL | 359.00 | | | | | | | | | 359.00 | 19341.00 |
| AUG 2 | KWIK KOPY | 196.45 | | | | | | | | 196.45 | | 19144.55 |
| AUG 2 | PETTY CASH/ROBINSON | 190.48 | | | 96.55 | 40.18 | | | | 53.75 | | 18954.07 |
| AUG 5 | L. KATSKEE | 456.58 | | | | | | 456.58 | | | | 18497.49 |
| AUG 15 | H. HEDGECOCK | 520.11 | | | | | | 520.11 | | | | 17977.38 |
| AUG 26 | F. COREY | 375.00 | | | | | | | | | 375.00 | 17602.38 |
| AUG 26 | E. HUDSON | 269.00 | | | | | 269.00 | | | | | 17333.38 |
| AUG 26 | E. HUDSON | 300.00 | | | | | | | | | 300.00 | 17033.38 |
| SEP 8 | PETTY CASH/ROBINSON | 280.85 | | | 163.47 | 76.48 | | | | 40.90 | | 16752.53 |
| SEP 8 | J. CARROLL | 504.55 | | | | | | 504.55 | | | | 16247.98 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -359.00 | | | | | | | | | -359.00 | 16606.98 |
| SEP 12 | PERFORMANCE PRINTING | 885.00 | | 885.00 | | | | | | | | 15721.98 |
| SEP 14 | L. KATSKEE | 248.00 | | | | | 248.00 | | | | | 15473.98 |
| SEP 14 | F. COREY | 268.00 | | | | | 268.00 | | | | | 15205.98 |
| SEP 23 | L. VIDAL | 250.00 | | | | | | | | | 250.00 | 14955.98 |
| SEP 26 | L. VIDAL | 278.00 | | | | | 278.00 | | | | | 14677.98 |
| SEP 26 | E. HUDSON | 204.00 | | | | | | | 204.00 | | | 14473.98 |
| SEP 26 | K. ROBINSON | 500.00 | | 500.00 | | | | | | | | 13973.98 |
| OCT 7 | GRAPHIC SUPERMARKET | 90.00 | | | | 90.00 | | | | | | 13883.98 |
| OCT 7 | KWIK KOPY | 221.50 | | | | | | | | 221.50 | | 13662.48 |
| OCT 7 | MILLS OFFICE PRODS. | 85.59 | | | | 85.59 | | | | | | 13576.89 |
| OCT 7 | L. ROBINSON | 399.00 | | | | | 399.00 | | | | | 13177.89 |
| OCT 7 | L. HARTMAN | 399.00 | | | | | 399.00 | | | | | 12778.89 |
| OCT 7 | E. PURYEAR | 399.00 | | | | | 399.00 | | | | | 12379.89 |
| OCT 12 | J. FLACK | 700.00 | | | | | 700.00 | | | | | 11679.89 |
| OCT 13 | J. FLACK | 400.00 | | | | | | | | 400.00 | | 11279.89 |
| OCT 13 | J. STOTLAND | 289.00 | | | | | 289.00 | | | | | 10990.89 |
| NOV 30 | K. ROBINSON | 1000.00 | | 1000.00 | | | | | | | | 9990.89 |
| NOV 30 | PURYEAR CREDIT | -399.00 | | | | | -399.00 | | | | | 10389.89 |
| NOV 30 | F. COREY | 355.00 | | | 17.11 | | 337.89 | | | | | 10034.89 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -375.00 | | | | | | | | | -375.00 | 10409.89 |
| NOV 30 | L. KATSKEE | 212.70 | | | | | 212.70 | | | | | 10197.19 |
| NOV 30 | M.L. WILKINSON | 246.29 | | | | | 246.29 | | | | | 9950.90 |
| NOV 30 | H. HEDGECOCK | 429.79 | | | | | 429.79 | | | | | 9521.11 |
| NOV 30 | E. HUDSON | 225.50 | | | | | 225.50 | | | | | 9295.61 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -300.00 | | | | | | | | | -300.00 | 9595.61 |
| | J. FLACK | 271.72 | | | | | 271.72 | | | | | 9323.89 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -400.00 | | | | | | | | | -400.00 | 9723.89 |
| DEC 16 | K. ROBINSON | 500.00 | | 500.00 | | | | | | | | 9223.89 |
| DEC 16 | PETTY CASH/CLEAR | 271.27 | | | 209.97 | 61.30 | | | | | | 8952.62 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -300.00 | | | | | | | | | -300.00 | 9252.62 |
| DEC 16 | L. VIDAL | 209.28 | | | | | 209.28 | | | | | 9043.34 |
| | CLEAR ADVANCE | -250.00 | | | | | | | | | -250.00 | 9293.34 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---|---------|
| DEC 23 J. BEADRIAN | 560.00 | | | 560.00 | 8733.34 |
| DEC 23 J. BEADRIAN | 45.50 | | | 45.50 | 8687.84 |
| DEC 23 L. ROBINSON | 216.14 | | 216.14 | | 8471.70 |
| DEC 23 J. STOTLAND | 205.80 | | 205.80 | | 8265.90 |
| JAN 23 H. HEDGECOCK | 500.00 | 500.00 | | | 7765.90 |
| JAN 23 K. ROBINSON | 500.00 | | 500.00 | | 7265.90 |
| APR 16 K. ROBINSON | 1000.00 | | 1000.00 | | 6265.90 |
| MAY 3 K. ROBINSON | 500.00 | | 500.00 | | 5765.90 |
| MAY 3 PARENT CONSULTANTS | 500.00 | 500.00 | | | 5265.90 |
| JUN 15 K. ROBINSON | 1000.00 | | 1000.00 | | 4265.90 |
| JUN 15 PARENT CONSULTANTS | 500.00 | 500.00 | | | 3765.90 |
| TOTALS | 16234.10 | 1500.00 | 5000.00 | 885.00 17.11 469.99 333.55 5205.11 1481.24 809.50 512.60 0.00 | . |
| JUN 30 H. HEDGECOCK | 3500.00 | | | | 265.90 |

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF
THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

AFB GRANT EXPENSES
1982-1983

| DATE | PAID TO | AMOUNT | BALANCE | TRAVEL | SEC'Y PRINTING | POSTAGE | MTGS TELEPH'N ADVANCES | MISC |
|--------|--------------------|---------|----------|--------|----------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| 7-82 | | | 18000.00 | | | | | |
| 7-82 | LEE ROBINSON | 715.78 | 17284.22 | 715.78 | | | | |
| | | | 17284.22 | | | | | |
| 8-5-82 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 750.00 | 16534.22 | | 750.00 | | | |
| 8-82 | JOHN CRANDALL | 463.25 | 16070.97 | 363.25 | | | 100.00 | |
| 8-82 | AUDREY SMITH | 298.00 | 15772.97 | 298.00 | | | | |
| | | | 15772.97 | | | | | |
| 9-2 | LEE ROBINSON | 225.00 | 15547.97 | | | | 225.00 | |
| 9-30 | KWIK KOPY | 554.74 | 14993.23 | | 554.74 | | | |
| | | | 14993.23 | | | | | |
| 10-1 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 66.48 | 14926.75 | | 66.48 | | | |
| 10-4 | LEE ROBINSON | 74.62 | 14852.13 | | | 63.80 | | 10.82 |
| 10-13 | LAURA VIDAL | 500.00 | 14352.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| 10-14 | JEANNIE FLACK | 300.00 | 14052.13 | 300.00 | | | | |
| 10-15 | FAY COREY | 600.00 | 13452.13 | | | | 600.00 | |
| 10-19 | LEE ROBINSON | 500.00 | 12952.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| 10-19 | EILEEN HUDSON | 500.00 | 12452.13 | | | | 500.00 | |
| 10-19 | LINDA KATSKEE | 459.55 | 11992.58 | 459.55 | | | | |
| 10-19 | LINDA KATSKEE | 200.00 | 11792.58 | | | | 200.00 | |
| 10-24 | LEE ROBINSON | 98.00 | 11694.58 | 98.00 | | | | |
| 10-24 | LEE ROBINSON | | 11694.58 | 145.35 | | | -145.35 | |
| 10-29 | JEANNIE FLACK CC | 311.00 | 11383.58 | 311.00 | | | | |
| | | | 11383.58 | | | | | |
| 11-7 | LEE ROBINSON | 248.00 | 11135.58 | 248.00 | | | | |
| 11-7 | LEE ROBINSON | | 11135.58 | 237.00 | | | | |
| 11-7 | ELAINE MOSES | 485.76 | 10649.82 | 485.76 | | | 124.25 | -361.25 |
| 11-8 | HENRY HEDGECK | 595.35 | 10054.47 | 595.35 | | | | |
| 11-8 | GALE HEDGECK | 432.97 | 9621.50 | 432.97 | | | | |
| 11-8 | MARY LOU WILKINSON | 356.82 | 9264.68 | 356.82 | | | | |
| 11-15 | JACKIE CARROLL | 473.83 | 8790.85 | 473.83 | | | | |
| 11-15 | JACKIE CARROLL | 163.03 | 8627.82 | 163.03 | | | | |
| 11-19 | FAY COREY CR | -600.00 | 9227.82 | | | | -600.00 | |
| 11-22 | LINDA KATSKEE | 236.26 | 8991.56 | 436.26 | | | -200.00 | |
| 11-30 | EILEEN HUDSON CR | -131.20 | 9122.76 | 368.80 | | | -500.00 | |
| | | | 9122.76 | | | | | |
| 12-6 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 212.67 | 8910.09 | | 212.67 | | | |
| 12-6 | KEITHA'S TYP'N SVC | 325.00 | 8585.09 | | 325.00 | | | |
| 12-8 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 580.98 | 8004.11 | | 580.98 | | | |
| 12-21 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 164.22 | 7839.89 | | 164.22 | | | |
| 12-21 | MAE DAVIDOW | 404.38 | 7435.51 | 404.38 | | | | |
| | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| 1983 | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| | | | 7435.51 | | | | | |
| 1-19 | LEE ROBINSON | 438.60 | 6996.91 | | 261.60 | 177.00 | | |
| | | | 6996.91 | | | | | |
| 2-8 | KWIK KOPY | 826.70 | 6170.21 | | 826.70 | | | |
| 2-8 | KEITH'S TYPING SVC | 200.00 | 5970.21 | | 200.00 | | | |
| | LAURA VIDAL CR | -15.20 | 5985.41 | 484.80 | | | -500.00 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--|-------|---------|--|
| | | | 5985.41 | | | | | | |
| 2 | JACKIE CARROLL | 300.00 | 5685.41 | | | | | 300.00 | |
| 2 | ANGEL VASQUEZ | 13.15 | 5672.26 | | 13.15 | | | | |
| 3 | GALE HEDGECK | 312.15 | 5360.11 | 312.15 | | | | | |
| | JACKIE CARROLL | 190.05 | 5170.06 | 190.05 | | | | | |
| | LEE ROBINSON | | 5170.06 | 138.75 | | | | -138.75 | |
| | LEE ROBINSON CR | -79.65 | 5249.71 | | | | | -79.65 | |
| 5 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 320.00 | 4929.71 | 320.00 | | | | | |
| 23 | JACKIE CARROLL | 106.90 | 4822.81 | 406.90 | | | | -300.00 | |
| 8 | LEE ROBINSON | 69.10 | 4753.71 | | 69.10 | | | | |
| 8 | VANTAGE PRINTING | 172.97 | 4580.74 | | 172.97 | | | | |
| 8 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 662.76 | 3917.98 | | 662.76 | | | | |
| | | | 3917.98 | | | | | | |
| 2 | KEITHA ROBINSON | 160.00 | 3757.98 | 160.00 | | | | | |
| 2 | LEE ROBINSON | 375.00 | 3382.98 | | | | | 375.00 | |
| | | | 3382.98 | | | | | | |
| | LEE ROBINSON | 290.00 | 3092.98 | 290.00 | | | | | |
| | KEITHA ROBINSON | 160.00 | 2932.98 | 160.00 | | | | | |
| | KEITHA ROBINSON | 300.00 | 2632.98 | | | | | 300.00 | |
| 6 | LEE ROBINSON CR | -303.10 | 2936.08 | 71.90 | | | | -375.00 | |
| 6 | M.L.WILKINSON | 117.34 | 2818.74 | | | | | 117.34 | |
| | | | 2818.74 | | | | | | |
| | JACKIE CARROLL | 48.71 | 2770.03 | | 4.03 | | 44.68 | | |
| 6 | PERFORMANCE PRINT | 764.60 | 2005.43 | | 764.60 | | | | |
| 6 | KWIK KOPY | 18.55 | 1986.88 | | 18.55 | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|------|--------|----------|
| TOTALS | 16013.12 | 1986.88 | 8787.68 | 1915.00 | 4355.37 | 244.83 | 237.40 | 44.68 | 0.00 | 428.16 | 16013.12 |
|--------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|------|--------|----------|

TOTAL AMOUNT + BAL 18000.00

TOTAL

NAPVI EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

May 17-19, 1985

The meeting of the Executive Board of NAPVI was called to order at the National Office, Austin, Texas, at 9:01 a.m. on May 17, 1985. Officers present were: Elaine Moses, president; Eileen Hudson, vice president; Henry Hedgecock, treasurer, and Judi Stotland, secretary. Also present were Lee Robinson, executive director and Kay Ferrell, AFB liaison.

Elaine Moses stated that the primary focus of this meeting would be the national convention proposed for November, 1986 and the budget for next year.

Board Member Jeanie Flack has moved, and can be reached at P. O. Box 23332, Billings, Montana 59104, and by phone at (406/245-7139).

Judi Stotland reported on a very successful Utah area meeting despite severe weather and storm warnings. Grant Mack of ACB was most supportive of Jeanie. By the end of the meeting, several people had come forward to serve as officers of a local parent group, and had set the next meeting date. Even as Jeanie moves out of the area, there were several strong parents who, with support, have the potential of becoming a NAPVI affiliate.

Judi Stotland attended the California Transcribers and Educators of the Visually Handicapped (CETVH) Conference in March in San Francisco as their keynote speaker. The theme was "Parents and Professionals Working Together." Many people attended and the speech was very well received. Plans had been completed to host a NAPVI cocktail party in honor of Dr. Lowenfeld and to present him with a plaque. However, the plaque was lost in the mail. Later, a tracer was put on the materials and it was determined that they were at the

hotel. Dr. Lowenfeld stated that he appreciated the award and will be happy to get it when it is recovered. The party was well attended by parents and key professionals.

Lee Robinson reported on the New York Area Meeting in Queens. Speakers included Dr. Joan Chase, Professor of Psychology at Rutgers University, Chia Zubizaretti, a physical therapist at the John F. Kennedy Center in New Jersey; Dr. Laurence Gardner of Columbia University, who spoke on low vision and Karen Luxton of Baruch College who spoke on computers and the visually impaired.

Pauline Moor and Laura Vidal received plaques. Fifty-two people had lunch, and others were there as well. Lee Robinson expects three groups to be candidates for affiliation from this meeting: North New Jersey and two New York groups. Coordinators were identified. The Queens Lighthouse, while expensive, was a good location. Publicity was slow in reaching potential participants due to delays with the U.S. Post Office. Lee stated that Diana and Gail did an excellent job of conducting the meeting.

Elaine Moses reported a meeting at Woodcreek, (in Wimberly, Texas) which followed from the Leadership Conference, and Anne Corn, a coordinating committee on transition needs. Elaine went as Region 13 Representative; Lee represented NAPVI. The Austin group is growing, as is one in Central Texas.

Elaine also attended an evening parent meeting in El Paso, where the program was attended by about 25-30 parents. This group should eventually affiliate as there have been requests for 30 information packets. Olivia Shoenberger is identified as a major motivator for this group.

AER held a meeting in Dallas attended by 200. Elaine and Lee were panelists on the program.

Henry Hedgecock reported on the Transition Conference in Washington,

D.C. Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia were represented; other states will meet next year. Participants recommended changes for next year. Highlights among presentations were the El Paso enclave and the Virginia's job-site presentations. The Transition Concept is already catching on. There was great recognition of NAPVI. The subsequent area meeting had five parents. Henry stated that the area meeting material didn't go directly to the parents.

Eileen Hudson's report of Washington Area Conference: Not a huge success, but Jack Hazekamp is an excellent speaker. Washington, D.C. would like to affiliate; the Novaks, originally from California now living in Philadelphia, want to start a group, and the New York parents also showed an interest. At the Transition Conference, Eileen was a reactor, which she enjoyed because the presentation matched her child's experience. She was impressed with the Transition Parents' reaction to NAPVI. Ohio, North Carolina, Washington state, and Florida are most interested. Tom Auletta (Florida) is willing to be and would make a good board member. A follow-up letter over Eileen's signature is suggested to all Transition parents, saying, e.g. "I met you in Washington, D.C. Can we assist you with materials, etc. for forming a parent group in your area?"

Judi Stotland reported an AFB workshop in Las Vegas that she did with Kay Ferrell due to the illness of Eileen Hancock. It was a wonderful opportunity for very isolated V.H. parents (e.g. my town is the stoplight between Reno and Las Vegas). Reach Out and Teach materials were presented and eagerly received. There were two requests for forming NAPVI Chapters, and Sunrise Hospital, the only neonatal facility for Nevada and parts of Arizona and California, now exhibits a NAPVI membership display, as does the State Department of Rehabilitation office.

Henry Hedgecock received a call from Diane Chase of the Library of Congress stating that funding for Free Matter for the Blind and non-profit bulk mail are in jeopardy, and requesting that we write newspapers in support. The loss of funding for Free Matter would create other hardships, such as transportation costs for adults to a post office to pay postage. The Hedgecock's son has written in favor of Free Matter as necessary for his library privilege. Lee Robinson called Washington and reports that \$832,000,000 has passed the House Committee and 1,000,000 passed the Senate as of 5/16/85. There will be a conference committee after Memorial Day.

With regard to attendance at affiliate and regional meetings, Henry Hedgecock suggested piggybacking on other conferences; Lee suggested fewer conferences.

There was a proposal from the Affiliated Leadership League of and for the Blind of America (ALL) that we join. Lee Robinson suggested Durward McDaniel attend the November Board Meeting to present this.

Eileen Hudson said there is an established Chicago group, and a response from teachers in the Northwest Suburban Special Education. They are holding their annual State Vision Institute and wish to include parents on 10/24-25/85. AFB Regional Representative Robert Esposito recommends piggybacking on this meeting. The contact is Leslie Williams and the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired Preschool Institute. Kalamazoo, Michigan, has its AER conference 10/22/85 and asks NAPVI to attend. They feel local parent affiliation is likely from this. There are timing conflicts for AFB reps, so that support would be missing. Eileen will pursue both meetings. Lee could go and Eileen will ask Joan Johnson and either Linda Katzkee or Fay Corey. Henry Hedgecock underlined the importance of utilizing former board members whenever possible.

CONVENTION REPORT

Elaine Moses and Lee Robinson visited two hotels in Dallas and one in Ft. Worth to see what they offer for the national convention. They selected the North Park Inn in Dallas. It is surrounded by shopping and restaurants of all price ranges. It's not fancy, but a nice family hotel. Rooms will be \$50, single or double.

Use of Naman and Associates to coordinate was recommended by AFB Regional Representative Judy Scott.

Lee Robinson attended a CEC workshop on holding conventions and we are paralleling their recommendations.

We need to set policies on date, costs, etc., on hiring professionals to do a tradeshow or do it ourselves, and on hiring professionals to sell the adbook/program or do ourselves.

Judi Stotland proposed funding a parent's trip to the convention for work on the meeting rather than hiring professionals.

It was discussed not to have alcohol or cigarette ads, but recommended that we just control for tastefulness.

REPORT FROM FUNDRAISER SHAUN O'BRIEN

Last time we reviewed which organizations would be contacted. Around 50 have been contacted so far. The Dougherty Foundation of Beeville, Texas sent \$4,200 for publication of Your Child's Information Journal. Mr. O'Brien stated that we can count on this or more for the next three years. There is a "brother" foundation, the Vaughan Foundation, which is likely to give us as much as \$2,500.

There has been only a 12 percent negative response, which means that a

number of foundations have not yet taken action. They may only meet December and July of each year, and we were too late for December, 1984. O'Brien will reapply to those who turned us down and apply to new foundations. He stated that it is time we broadened outside of Texas and Gail is suggested to assist us in Connecticut. Parents are needed to call or write a letter. Personal appeals make a difference. It is helpful if there is a connection, or if 20 parents write a letter, and three individuals visit. O'Brien will circulate a national list to key NAPVI reps of foundations and their current boards that have a 5-year history of giving to the visually impaired to see if we know someone.

We must allocate portions of income received for future printing, fund raising, and operational costs. Lee needs to respond to the Dougherty Foundation that funds received were used for purposes so designated, and a copy of the Journal is to be sent to each Foundation board member.

O'Brien discussed NAPVI'S decision against using 5-letter mail solicitation of its members for fund raising. O'Brien feels that the mail solicitation should continue in all organizations that raise funds to include in information sent to foundations. Pros and cons were discussed regarding the mail solicitation. Other fund raising efforts have been introduced. Lee Robinson stated we added a contribution line to the renewal form and \$1,325.80 has been received. Our current newsletter has a lead article on giving.

O'Brien was asked about an adbook. We don't have horsepower to sell ads; he suggests contracting out sales. O'Brien will send pricelists from adbook of charity he supports. Suggests Texas Federation for the Blind could sell ads, perhaps for 50% percent of profit.

O'Brien will help contact businesses about their underwriting convention

functions, if we will break it into components, e.g. cost per speaker, banquet costs, etc.

The Texas Association of Executives has outlines on how to manage conventions. O'Brien suggests that Lee join and we can invite their participation in our November board meeting.

O'Brien predicts another \$20,000 in donations before the last quarter of this year.

Members could put an educational piece about NAPVI to banks having Trust Departments. It should include a NAPVI holder and convention updates. Trust officers often manage charitable contributions as tax write-offs for their accounts.

Who? Possible speakers were discussed for the National Convention. Luci Johnson Turpin was one of them.

Financial Report: We spent more than we took in (about \$18-19 difference from last year at this time). A lot of money went into publications, but we ordered a lot more materials and \$875 newsletter is included. Travel line includes local mailings and printing for the New York meeting. Contributions received were \$100 from Henry Hedgecock's uncle and \$500 from the New York meeting. N.Y. bills are still pending. No AFB money is included here and publication costs usually were sent to AFB.

Kay Ferrell stated that \$8,553.32 left over for this year's grant will be turned over to us.

Who? Current membership is 568. AFB account has only been used for travel for executive and annual meetings, rent and secretary.

One travel advance has not cleared. Kay Ferrell will check with AFB accounting to see if check was cashed, and Henry Hedgecock will follow up on collections if the money is due us.

Elaine Moses requested that financial report categories correspond to proposed budget categories for ease of comprehension. Pending expenses for this budget year are: rent for four months, \$1000; secretary, \$2,400 and phone averaging \$100 - 150 per month. Not all travel expenses have been cleared.

We had printed an extra 200 of "Why Join NAPVI?" We propose another 1500. We need more Parents to the Rescue and envelopes.

Kay Ferrell, Diana and Gail did an excellent speaking job at the New York meeting. There was an outstanding response to slides "Your Rights as Parents " (NAPVI has a copy). AFB has placed \$24,000 for NAPVI in its proposed budget for next year, thanks to Elaine Moses and Lee Robinson's excellent reports and requests.

Lee Robinson reports that Alan Dinsmore contacted him. Federal funding for special education is now down to 8 percent, state is 40 percent, rest is local. We should be working on state legislatures about what services should be available. This material exists in California Guidelines and Reach Out and Teach's section on law. Alan D. suggests maybe an AFB-NAPVI co-publication of pertinent parts for parents and legislators.

Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock are on the agenda of the AFB Early Years Advisory Committee Meeting in Atlanta this coming week to request funds from AFB for the convention. Suggestions: front-money, speaker fees, parent attendance "scholarships."

Henry Hedgecock asked if we can omit mention of AFB's NAPVI support when we solicit certain companies where it would not be to our advantage to report the sponsorship? Answer: Yes.

Executive Board requests placing discussion of a newsletter supplement similar to "Why Join NAPVI?" on the agenda for the November meeting. The

next Transition Conference is New Orleans in January 1986.

Membership: Lee Robinson stated membership is 568 - ahead of last year by three months. No affiliate has submitted renewal forms. Lee Robinson stated California has only four members so far this year, and he assumed they were being held for affiliate renewal submission. Judi stated that she felt that there was confusion among the California members. Some were joining only NAPVI or CAPVI when they thought that they were joining both at the same time. The Executive Board authorized a letter to all California NAPVI 1985 members stating that if they wished to maintain CAPVI membership, they need to send an additional \$5 to Patty Glennan.

Judi Stotland requested centralized NAPVI billing include amount for affiliate membership renewal to avoid this problem. The membership committee will review this and it will be an agenda item at the November meeting.

Convention: Naman and Associates returned signed copy of contract for 11/5 - 11/8/85. A \$50 room rate is guaranteed, single or double, children free. Meals are still open to negotiation. They offer a complementary margarita hour in connection with the trade show, and five complementary rooms for three days, and a conference room for the next board meeting. Also offered is six complementary nights for preplanning.

Is the hotel geared for the handicapped? It is wheelchair accessible with no evident barriers. Elevators, etc. should be brailled, menus brailled, and arrangements made for individual orientation. Margarine Beaman is to be contacted to coordinate these services.

The Executive Board reviewed and changed a draft of the General Plan of the Parent Conference. The revised draft and budget is attached, and minutes will only reflect comments not included in the draft.

Discussion led to the possibility of having an essay contest - a topic

that can provide material for newsletter. Judges or categories suggested: one parent, one professional, one child. We could use a free room as a prize.

For the trade show, hotel provides table and tablecloth drapings. We would need to have space dividers and signs as well. There is a motion to contract the tradeshow to an outside professional for no more than 2/3 income. There is a recommendation to charge \$400 per space with no breaks for non-profit organizations. The possibility of a free poster section for nonprofits, and formal vendor presentations during the conference meetings were rejected. A board member must be designated to work with the tradeshow, even if the Board votes to hire an outside organization.

Henry was asked to establish a separate account for income and expenses of the convention.

Kay Ferrell suggested placing a bulletin board on display with Polaroid pictures of each convention attendee, with name and place of origin.

The flyer needs an art designer.

Registration will need computers at convention for registration: refer to O'Brien to ask Apple for a loan.

Parents and friends in the local Dallas area must be involved very early as part of the program committee to develop local donation for adbook and underwriting convention events. Setting up a Local Arrangements Committee will be the responsibility of Lee and Elaine and will require a trip to Dallas.

Judi Stotland suggested a raffle. Anyone selling 150 tickets should receive a chance at a free room and airfare for the convention.

Plastic folders for convention packets would cost \$2-3 each; O'Brien

could possibly find funding for these.

Recommendation to add to next year's budget the cost of a modem. (\$500, including software).

The Executive Committee "brainstormed" suggestions for Eileen Hudson's Program Committee. We must be sensitive to addressing the diverse needs of families having multihandicapped, low vision, totally blind, preschool, and "transition-aged" children. In line with convention title, Thursday workshops could be centered around themes such as "Ourselves"; Friday, "Our Children"; Saturday, "Our Friends."

Suggested for Thursday "Get Acquainted" break (10:45 - 12:00) is to group attendees by geographical region. Friday's 9:45 - 10:15 break could be by child's visual diagnosis.

Add to Friday's suggested topics, "Motor Development."

Judi Stotland suggested we have an Alphabet Soup Contest. Each conventioneer would receive in their packet a list of acronyms (e.g. AFB, IEP, etc.). The first to decode the entire list (with as much help as they can get) wins.

It was suggested to include in the first session a summary of existing NAPVI resolutions and include in the closing session an opportunity for the convention to vote on new resolutions proposed by the convention members.

Judi Stotland suggested that we allow an opportunity for collateral meetings on Wednesday night.

We should solicit sponsors for a reception Wednesday night, or have a cash bar.

We propose to allow the exhibits to be open 11/6/86 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; 11/7/86 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and 11/8/86 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday is at the option of the vendor.

Parents should act as moderators of every session.

The Program Committee needs more information about potential speakers.

The Program Committee needs to add members, including non-Board people.

Chris Thomkins is recommended.

The NAPVI newsletter should list professional members who have joined NAPVI with thanks for their support.

The Executive Board recommends that speakers be obtained at no cost, if possible, and otherwise for cost of airfare and one night's hotel.

Lee suggested we obtain a plaque that could be used as a display at meetings with names of all special award winners and one with names of all offgoing board members for national office.

It was suggested that the national convention is a most appropriate time to formally honor Bill Gallagher and Susan Spungin for their support in starting NAPVI.

Having a cash bar at the banquet was rejected by the Executive Board, and referred to the Program Committee for further discussion.

We need "front money" of at least \$20,250.

Judi Stotland voiced a concern about the ability of parents to afford a trip to this convention. Every effort should be made to locate funding sources so that parents may be able to participate.

Lee Robinson commented about how much more additional work will be required of the national office in order to organize the convention. He said the current rate for a full-time secretary is \$13,000. It was suggested, however, that clerks could be hired at \$4-5 /hr. part-time as needed. Henry Hedgecock moved that not more than \$350/mo. be allocated for this purpose. Kay Ferrell suggested that we need to pay Lee or someone else to act as the Conference Director. Henry Hedgecock suggested a total salary between now

and convention of \$18,500. 25 percent has been added to appropriate convention cost estimates to cover the costs of the above salaries, pending Board approval.

Eileen will contact celebrities for possible attendance at convention.

Lee Robinson is renewing our provisional tax exempt status which is due to expire in August.

Clerks and Convention Director need to be hired on a consultant basis. There are four possible payment schedules for Convention Director: a) breaking down activities into "projects"; b) monthly; c) pay as grants are received; d) on a workload basis, i.e. some months (weeks) will require more time and effort than others.

If vote #10 passes, Lee Robinson will establish a separate petty cash fund for paying clerical personnel of \$350/mo., renewable by submission of employment receipts.

Lee Robinson asked the Board for a procedure for requests for a NAPVI position on an issue. The Executive Board recommended that such proposals be circulated by mail to the Board. Any member can respond with an objection, which also should be circulated by mail. If time is of the essence, the President will call. If there already is a resolution clearly spelling our position, a response can be sent directly.

One such letter, regarding soliciting the National Library Service to create more large-print editions for young children, will be circulated with these minutes along with concerns regarding support of this specific issue.

A discussion was held on how to decide what meetings should be attended by NAPVI representatives at NAPVI expense. Henry Hedgecock suggested each regional representative can attend one meeting per region at their discretion. After the national convention we can return to workshops.

Judi Stotland received a call for papers for AER national convention, and suggested we offer a parent panel, "IEP's: a View From the Other Side of the Table" as having been very successful at CTEVH. Elaine Moses selected Eileen Hudson to attend this convention and offer workshop.

Lee Robinson suggested that the national meetings of AER, APH, and ACB should be attended for NAPVI visibility. Judi Stotland suggested attendees be rotated among the Board. NAPVI Board members should ask the following when invited to a meeting: 1) What will you do to assure parent attendance? 2) Can I hold a reception/meeting for parents using your meeting room at some point during the convention? 3) Can your organization help with the costs of my travel, etc.?

Other committee reports: Descriptions of visual disabilities - no progress. Hint book - not a lot of response from newsletter. Mary Lou asks for other strategies, e.g. a contest. Judi Stotland proposed hints as the subject of the convention's essay contest. Membership - Mary Lou suggests an honorary plaque for donors of \$1,000 or more. The first plaque(s) could be given at the convention. This will be on the agenda for our November meeting. Specifities of the plan need to be circulatd in advance of that meeting. Jeanie Flack reports there are misunderstandings about who can join NAPVI. This will be restated in a separate NAPVI article followed by a list of professionals who have joined. Kay will write article. The article can also highlight grandparents, etc.

*\$1,000
also for
lifetime
members*

Stewart Lurie, brother of Judi Stotland, was contacted regarding his expertise on adbooks. In his opinion, if we hired professionals we would only profit 10-20 percent after printing and layout costs. He strongly recommends we have parents sell ads. He has offered to donate his expertise to NAPVI, including composing letters and structuring a reward system for

parent-sales (e.g. free banquet). With parent sales, our profits will be in excess of 50 percent. Stewart Lurie would only want reimbursement for out-of-pocket expense, e.g. if the board wanted him to travel to Dallas for a meeting.

The Executive Board discussed utilizing these services. The national office could solicit major companies, and parents in Dallas and Ft. Worth could handle local solicitation. It was suggested to include in the adbook a list of individual donors. Judi Stotland suggested listing "jewels" - our children - for \$10 each. We could also have a patrons' listing for \$25.

Problems with affiliation were raised. There is a need to clarify Linda Katskee's role on the committee, and to be sure there is a committee chairman. The following people have requested information on affiliation, and should be followed up by a member of the committee: Nancy Novak, Pennsylvania; Jerry Lynch, Minnesota; Dwaine Wild, Louisiana; Billie and Barb Byrd, North Carolina; Lois Hart, Washington State; Jerry Watkins, New Mexico School for the Blind; parents from Las Vegas and Albuquerque.

Affiliate renewal packets were mailed to affiliate presidents. Judi Stotland requested that in the future CAPVI packets be sent to the membership chairman.

Fay Corey expressed concern via phone conversation with Elaine that parents of multihandicapped/visually impaired be represented on NAPVI's board. It was pointed out that Joan Johnson and Diana Cuthbertson can represent parents of multihandicapped, as can Tom Auletta, a potential board member from Florida. Many other important constituencies are also unrepresented at present, e.g. some minorities. The Board must deal with nominees and their qualifications as they are received.

California Guidelines - Gail Granados and Elaine Moses reviewed and

would suggest that states tailor the guidelines to their laws, or that there be a national effort. Lee Robinson wants to send the Guidelines to parents who ask for information about laws, continuums of service and funding. Judi Stotland suggested a Table of Contents referring to parts of special interest to parents. Lee Robinson suggested that the guidelines be assigned as a committee project for publication. Judi Stotland suggested that Jack Hazekamp be invited to serve on that committee.

Fay Corey via phone conversation suggested that humor be injected into the coping materials.

No report for grandparents project or list of lists or publicity.

Fay Corey congratulated Mary Lou on the professionally produced newsletter. Mary Lou wants it available on cassette. Cardboard mailers are 35 cents and cassettes are at least 67 cents for 90 minutes. Visually Impaired Veterans (VIVA) have a tape duplicator and Recordings for the Blind can do a master. We could provide the first tape if recipients will return them. Judi Stotland asked about Spanish-language edition. Laura Vidal had once offered to translate. Lee Robinson suggested we begin with one Spanish article per newsletter. Lee Robinson will put ad in newsletter about tape availability.

The advisory technical board committee needs name suggestions.

We believe NAPVI already has a confidentiality policy; Elaine Moses will try and locate it.

Henry Hedgecock reported on proposed scholarships. We could designate either a V.I. college-bound student or a person entering the field of teaching V.I., or both to receive the scholarship. We will need a screening committee to determine the recipients.

May 19, 1985 8:44 a.m.

The budget for 1985-86 was developed, and a copy is attached. Lee and Keitha may move their office which means his costs will rise, and NAPVI's cost may need to increase proportionately. Lee Robinson asked that part of secretary's salary be allocable to hiring clerical assistance. A contract for secretarial services could be made with Keitha's Typing Service to accomplish this.

Lee Robinson suggested we need fewer newsletters since we no longer mail to nonpaying members. Henry Hedgecock pointed out that since the per unit price goes up as the number of copies go down, we might as well continue the same number of copies.

The excess funds from the \$4,200 we received for printing will go in a reserve fund toward our \$20,000 fundraising commitment. Henry Hedgecock will put it in a C.D.

Conference budget includes that one per region discussed earlier, as well as the Chicago parent workshop, and AER regional meetings in California, Arkansas, Virginia, and Tennessee.

There was a discussion of the difficulty of getting mailings through the postal system in time for conferences. Lee Robinson stated he will mail earlier, expecting an up to 20-day delay as has been the case or, as necessary, mailing first class. Judi Stotland suggested separately mailing one copy of flier so that if there is a large delay, material could be reproduced locally.

Last year we had a good supply of printed materials at beginning of the fiscal year. This year we need Take Charge, publications list, "Why NAPVI?",

and envelopes and letterhead. Judi, Joan, Kate, Gail and Diana also need business cards. AFB now has brailled business cards. New letterhead will be ordered as new board members are connected. Since there will potentially be new board members annually, Lee will produce a limited amount of letterhead with current board for immediate use.

We need a total of \$38,040 for coming budget year, with an expected AFB grant of \$24,000. We need to raise an additional \$15,000 to cover costs. Any overage on income from this year (if any) other than reserve for fundraising will carry over to F.Y. 1986.

Circulated budget shows actual 1985 expenses plus projected costs to close of this fiscal year, as well as projected 1986 figures. There will be a projected excess of expense of \$2-3000 over income.

The Board feels that creating a lifetime membership plaque could generate increased contributions.

Eileen Hudson will include in the letter to parents who attended the transition conference, a request for articles (personal experiences, etc.) , for "Why Transition?" special publication.

In reviewing the conference draft, the following were noted. Add to the vendor list, USABA, Discovery Toys, and Low Vision Specialists. Henry Hedgecock suggested seeing if airline will give cash contributions in lieu of complementary tickets. There will be three separate raffles: one for door prizes at convention, one for sale by the membership; a third for convention trip for those who sell 150 or more tickets. Any tickets received without funds should be considered null and void. We will need to print at least 100,000 tickets.

An assignment list is attached to the conference draft with suggested people for NAPVI Board review and discussion.

There will be a significant loss if the speakers all cost us, and if we do not get a lot of donations.

The November 1985 meeting is to include then current board and Jackie Carroll, and immediate outgoing board members. Registration forms will be submitted for evaluation at November meeting. Dallas people will be included in part of our November Board meeting. Lee Robinson and Elaine Moses will establish groundwork with the leadership in Dallas this summer and pitch to full membership in the fall.

Lee Robinson will compose a sample letter for scholarships and send to the Board.

We should have a nonsmoking section at the banquet.

Fay Corey is nominated as social director.

A draft of the proposed flyer designed by Lee Robinson is enclosed for review. Publicity should begin to be released immediately.

Kay Ferrell suggested ribbons on name tags for speakers and NAPVI Board.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

MINUTES ADDENDUM

Dear Board,

On my return flight from NAPVI Executive Board, I sat next to the president of "Consultants in Quality Care", a person who does seminars, etc. for hospitals. She has done tradeshow in hospitals across the country, and states that it is cheaper (and simpler) to rent needed dividers, pay for signs, and pay for set-up without contracting out. She also suggested that we charge per day for the tradeshow as we need to pay per day on rental costs. She feels it should be unusually effective, since it gives vendors an opportunity to contact consumers directly. She suggested we send out letters for bids for the above to local Dallas sources, and we will get all the cross-pricing we need. I propose we solicit this kind of bid before contracting full tradeshow.

Judi

TO DO LIST

ELAINE

EILEEN Refer to Affiliation Committee chair the requests from Washington, Louisiana, Philadelphia, North Carolina, Minnesota and Las Vegas and New Mexico.

JUDI/

LEE Send addresses and names Las Vegas group
Send affiliation packets

LEE Send a follow-up letter to Transition Conference Parents offering NAPVI organizing help and asking for articles for NAPVI Transition Special newsletter.

EILEEN Pursue Chicago and Kalamazoo meetings. Call Jean Johnston and Fay Corey or Linda Katske to attend.

- LEE
1. Letter to Dougherty Foundation, and Journals to Foundation Board Members.
 2. Summary to O'Brien - amount of contributions received and how many givers.
 3. Find out about joining Texas Association of Executives (fee could be voted at conference call if available by then).
 4. Business cards for Judi, Kate, Eileen, Elaine, Jeanie, Diana and Gail, Joan.

KAY

H.H. Follow-up on \$300 advance.

MEMBER-
SHIP COM.

Review and Develop format/proposal for Affiliate billing to be added to NAPVI renewal billings.

LEE Contact Margarine Beaman to coordinate hotel adaptations (brailling elevators, menus, etc.)

LEE Refer to O'Brien to solicit donations:

1. Polaroid for picture-board.
2. Apple Computer loans for registration
3. \$1500 for convention folders.
4. Specific programs and equipment
5. Campbell Soup and or Alphabits for Alphabet Soup Award.
6. Videotaping workshops.

LEE

ELAINE Develop committments from local Dallas parents and friends of NAPVI.

ELAINE Ask hotel if they will extend convention rates over Saturday night.

LEE Send Eileen Hudson a synopsis of the suggested speakers activities and

abilities.

Send awards committee qualifications of nominees.

MARY

LOU Obtain list of professional members and include in next newsletter.

LEE

H.H Renew tax-exempt status.

ELAINE Check on NAPVI representation at July ACB national convention.

KAY

NAPVI Newsletter article stating who may join - with list of professionals who are members.

ELAINE

1. Assign a "Guidelines" publication committee.
2. Locate confidentiality policy.
3. Check with airlines if cash contributions can be given in lieu of complementary tickets.

LEE

Invite Jackie Carroll and immediate outgoing board to November meeting.

E.M.

LEE

Contact with Dallas people and invite to November meeting. Leader meeting this summer.

LEE

Draft new letters of agreement for Executive Director and for Secretary.

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.

Board of Directors' Annual Meeting

Minutes

November 1-3, 1985

The annual board meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was called to order by President Elaine Moses on 11-1-85. The meeting was held at the Wyndham Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Those present at the meeting were Gale Hedgecock, Kate Aldrich, Diana Cuthbertson, Tom Auletta, Joan Johnson, Norma Lucas, Elaine Moses, Lee Robinson, Eileen Hudson, Gail Granados, Jeanie Flack and Fay Corey. About one week prior to the board meeting, it was learned that the Northpark Inn was closing and there is a need to determine a new conference site.

Individual pictures will be taken during the meeting to be used as needed for publicity.

Mr. Jay Naman of Naman & Associates spoke regarding his experience and the options we have in locating a new site. The Trammel Crow Corp., which owns the Wyndham, the Northpark and the nearby Antole, has been advised that we expect them to perform on our contract. The pros and cons of each hotel was considered. The Anatole is so large as to limit the amount of interaction between parents. Hotels in Arlington and downtown Dallas are also being considered by the committee. Lee Robinson proposed to have a walkthrough of the Northpark and other facilities.

Lucy Crow Billingsly is the owner of the Northpark. All negotiations regarding the contract will be made with her. Legal assistance will be sought

if negotiations fail. We have requested reimbursement of \$3,375 - in funds we have spent for fliers, etc. At this time the organization is not asking for any expenses outside of the ones known.

Individual board members reported on their activities at various meetings and ideas regarding possible affiliates:

Judi Stotland reported having spoken at AER's Southwest Regional Conference and at the Preschool Network Conference for Southern California.

Diana Cuthbertson attended the Lighthouse meeting. Possible affiliates are Scotch Plains, NJ, inner city New York. Kitty Birtaweg in Maine is a good contact as is Susan Frazier- Perrotta in Rhode Island. Diana is a contact for Massachusetts's Early Years Education Symposium (EYES). Mary Mooers is a professional contact in New Hampshire. Diana is planning a meeting for AFB, to include critical issues in preschool which will represent the parent perspective. She will be on the Transition Team for Massachusetts. Approximately 300 will attend the New England regional conference at Perkins School.

We could use parent training centers for contacts. Blind Childrens Center - Elaine Baldrige will train at TASK for doing advocacy.

Joan Johnson attended the Vision Conference in Illinois: several local groups there are interested in forming a statewide group. The State School is the best contact. There is a Northbrook parents group. Lee Robinson said that if we could pull group representatives together, we might get a state affiliation. Tom Whalin, EVIN, started a preschool in Springfield.

Tom Auletta discussed the North Florida Parents of the Visually Impaired and his participation on the Florida Transition Team.

Gale Hedgecock will representative NAPVI at CEC next spring in New Orleans.

Jeanie Flack discussed the Salt Lake City meeting. The group is needing support. Tammy Ostlender is the contact person for the group. Another group in Oregon needs support. Her lawyer in Montana is still working on a lawsuit for adequate education for parents. The Administration wouldn't hire a teacher without a commitment from Jeanie to stay and she brought another parent in. Jeanie serves on an AFB board to deal with improving education in rural education and is currently working with the mentally disabled

Fay Corey is working on a state task force, "Right to Education." She wants a NAPVI resolution on the need for more braille books. Nationally the problem is getting books on time in either large print, braille, or tape. A totally blind, mainstreamed child testified to this issue. Fay is fighting for individualized Physical therapy for Josh, and Judy Stotland commented that it may be a national problem, since in California there are major efforts to divest PT and OT from education to medical service delivery. Tom Auletta suggested asking to see cooperative agreements. Diana Cuthbertson suggested writing Madeline Will regarding her monitoring of state situations.

Gail Granados attended the New York Conference. Possible affiliates include one group in Northern New Jersey and another in Northern New York (Albany). She also went to a Virginia meeting to organize a parent network and professional financial support from State. Connecticut has 350 families.

Eileen Hudson is a member of the Statutory Council in Wisconsin and of the Transition Team. Helen Keller Technical Advisory Center had a transition conference for the deaf/blind. She has a few speaker commitments for the conference.

Eileen wrote two proposals for Illinois Vision Conference relationships between teachers and professionals and creating parent groups. Early Years has

divided into rural and age 0 to point of diagnosis for mandating services.

Henry stated that the Seminar had a program regarding ethical practices.

A board member suggested that our resolutions be distributed more widely.

Fay Corey suggests honoring Senator Weicker for his efforts in his work for the handicapped.

Dr. Ferrell and others at AFB are planning a conference, Critical Issues in Early Childhood, for Arlington, Virginia May 1-4, 1986. It will be a conference parents can attend at no fee.

Lee Robinson stated that our current membership has grown again this year to a 125 percent increase and over 800 members. Henry Hedgecock stated that his records show 741 members, of which 448 are parents.

NAPVI has applied for another AFB grant to maintain us at \$24,000, 26,000, 28,000 for the next three years. We have a tentative commitment. We are generating a part of our own funds. We need an endowment fund of \$1.5 million in order to have an independent operating budget. September 30, 1985 ended our provisional tax-exempt status. Lee Robinson anticipates approval of application when it is submitted. We are not following up as well as we could with our affiliates. We need to add to our guidelines and assign responsibilities more carefully.

Transistion issues are of national concern, as teacher shortages continue to be. Noncategorical services is another major issue. Quality of service, as in the California Guidelines, must be addressed. Parents don't know of alternative services/models available to them.

We have received materials from our vendors.

Lee Robinson will go to Wisconsin for a conference on Career Opportunities for the Blind, as the keynote speaker.

The 1984 Executive Meeting Minutes were amended to read that \$1,000 donors could be considered as a life-time membership and could be donations over a period of time. Conference votes to be attached to the minutes.

1984 minutes were accepted. 1985 executive minutes accepted as amended.

All board members are encouraged to make contributions.

Financial report accepted.

AFB National Consultant, Judy Scott, attended. She said AFB is very committed to NAPVI and will help in any way they can.

Elaine Moses stated that the keynote speaker for Day 1 of the Convention is Natalie Barraga. We continue to need a greeter from the City of Dallas.

The conference plan was reviewed at this point in the meeting. The following are comments made in regards to the plan.

Need to deal with child care.

Evaluations form should be included.

A committee of four will meet with Trammel Crow's representative at 8:00 to negotiate hotel arrangements.

Issues in workshops should emphasize how it effects the individual child and family.

Commission for the Blind of Texas has agreed to help with the videotaping of the conference.

Trade Show: Reduction if an agency member of NAPVI of \$100. The booth cost is \$22.00.

Contract with Schneider and Associates for Adbook.

Solicit affiliates for Adbook ads. Adbook could be a resourcebook.

Decorator contract will be renegotiated.

Conferecne function sheet is to be used for each job we have at convention.

Jeanie Flack asked for a presentation packet for soliciting parent sponsorships for travel to conference.

HCA - Judy Stotland will contact hospital group.

Fay Corey talked about arranging bus trips to the convention.

Tom Auletta suggested that speakers should utilize the function form as well.

Each committee needs to submit a description of its functioning .

Reminder: Send in reimbursement forms to Henry Hedgecock before three months or the money in question will be considered a donation to NAPVI.

November 2, 1985

Laura Vidal is representing NAPVI at the Florida State meeting this weekend.

The committee had breakfast with Pat Smith of Trammel Crow. She wants us to look at Infomart as a possible convention site and to use the Wyndham as the hotel site. She is possibly amenable to defraying our costs at another facility in exchange for a sponsorship listing on our program. Henry Hedgecock strongly recommends a damages clause in a new conference contract in case there is another cancellation.

The membership list was discussed. Paid membership is 710 to date. Henry Hedgecock has 741.

Travel for board members was discussed. It was determined that our budget allows us to send a board member from each region to a conference per year. The Transition Conference was discussed. Diana and Fay will be attending as state representatives. Henry and Elaine should also attend. A reception will be provided for the parents.

Lee and Diana plan to attend the Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Conference.

The AERBVI national conference in Chicago was discussed. It was decided that Eileen, Joan and maybe Judi would attend.

Legislative: Funding for due process; handicapped parking discriminatory to eliminate VH. The Gramm-Rudman initiative purports to guarantee a balanced budget. It puts only 30 percent of budget at risk - including special education. Write for full funding of special education. Ask specifically which items will be affected.

Critical Issues of Infant and Preschool May 2-4, 1986: Kate will attend for NAPVI.

The fund raising contract has not produced much income. A list of foundations has been requested. Funds that were received from the Daugherty Foundation have been used to obtain a toll-free number for Napvi. (\$2/month; 1-800-225-0227 tone 994-610).

Diana Cuthbertson wants a boiler plate packet for fund raising and list. AFB has been approached for direct funding for the convention. A response has not been made.

Other possible sources for fund raising are the Lions Club, and Telephone Pioneers.

Tom Auletta suggested approaching students in teacher prep for membership, including O.T./P.T.

Eileen Hudson will contact Lions Clubs; Jackie Carroll, Telephone Pioneers, medical professionals, Joan Johnson.

Ask special education students to volunteer blocks of time to babysit children at the conference.

Various jobs that need assignment for the conference include Registrations, Banquet, Awards and Contests, Trade Show Coordinator.

It was suggested that the week before the conference should be set aside by board members to prepare for last minutes details.

Registrar coordinator: Gail Hedgecock

Additional volunteers for Registration: Elaine's family, Glenda Patton

Job list for conference preplanning:

1. Location /time Elaine and Lee
Advance Publicity Central office
Lions Eileen
Letter, business cards, Lee
Conference brochure
Door prizes
2. Essay contest: 3 categories - parent, professional, child. Mary Lou, chair; Kate would judge.
3. Tom will supervise the trade show.
4. Judy Scott and Elaine and Lee - catering
Packet Coordinator - local person under Gail
Lee will try to locate Spanish and deaf interpreters.
Registration forms should specify wheelchair, braille, large print, spanish and hearing impaired.
5. Program/Adbook Kate and Eileen Hudson
Welcome letter Elaine
Board Bios
Speakers Blurb
Quotes from parents
History of NAPVI

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6. Donor and Sponsor | Jeanie |
| 7. Program | Eileen Hudson |
| Media Show | Joan Johnson |
| Physical Arrangements | Central Office and Prog Comm. and TA |
| Social Director | Fay Corey and Sherry McGee |
| Hospitality | Norma |
| Volunteer coordinator | Lee Robinson, Elaine Moses, Judy Scott |
| Resolutions | Judi Stotland |
| Thank you to Governor of State, etc. | |
| Banquet coordinators | Fay and Norma |
| 8. Awards for most helpful hotel employees | Diana Cuthbertson and Gail Granados |
| Contests, Door prizes, alphabet soup; same birthdates, youngest and oldest child, first registration. Alphabet soup list - Judi Stotland | |
| Taping | Lee |
| Each committee chair will submit a plan | |
| 9. Speakers-program | |
| Raffle - "Void Where Prohibited by Law" Labled | |
| Committee Reports | |
| Grandparents and Memorials at cost of lifetime membership to equivalent of 20 years dues certificate and plaque. Honorary lifetime membership based on achievement at action of board. D Card \$1000 is over a lifetime of contributions - lifetime member parents can vote even after the child reaches | |

It was determined that the committee should review the Grandparents issue further.

Memorials as stand.

Affiliations: Jeanie to Chair, Lee Robinson will send affiliation applications to Jeanie who will send persons letter of welcome and assign a board "babysitter" who matches the needs of the group. Focus on what NAPVI can do for the group, the parents and their child.

Eileen Hudson will send eye conditions book to Kate Aldrich for further research.

The need for a group homes resolution was discussed.

Henry discussed the scholarship programs and is soliciting Lions Clubs for lists of parents.

A bulletin board of current and past board members was discussed to have on display at the conference and for other meetings.

Fay discussed the book she has been working on dealing with coping. She recommends a price of 7.50. Norma Lucas made a motion to publish the book and Kate Aldrich seconded it; motion carried.

November 3, 1986

Detroit Society for the Blind has started a computer network called "Foresight". NAPVI could be responsible for the parent component.

ALL has approached us for affiliation. They are a political group for coordinated activities. Cost is \$100 per year and cost of sending a representative. They gave a notebook to each legislator with statements on blindness. A motion was made that we join ALL for this year.

Board was requested to send black and white baby pictures for Preschool Learning Activities book cover.

Kate Aldrich moved that we be flexible in choosing our meeting date for next year to the second week of November if necessary. It was passed.

Diana Cuthbertson suggested that the price of the coping materials be changed to \$8.00.

Banquet suggestions: Texas barbeque and ribs, chicken, and a cash bar and banquet, Birthday party for NAPVI, popcorn, cake and media show.

Entertainment suggestion: Jason Ellsworth, a blind/cp child from Connecticut, might be invited to perform.

Hotel Selection: first choice is Sheraton. We can live with the Infomart but not with the Anatole.

Jeanie suggested that the affiliation packet additions be made simpler for parents to understand, stating that she considers "Parents are heart, NAPVI the head. She also stated that we should consider NAPVI in the same manner as an insurance policy - there if and when we need it.

- 1) Bill for local affiliate from National office

- 2) Send mailing list to affiliate for local billing

- 3) Affiliate bills for NAPVI and NAPVI sends a bill for % of membership to affiliate.

Lee will send a separate billing to affiliates stating that in stead of joining NAPVI, they should send a total Lee to the affiliate.

Henry H's affiliate bills state how much membership and to submit to the treasurer of the local group to forward to national office.

The Affiliation Committee should bring alternate concrete suggestions for review by board as a bylaw change in future.

Consensus of group to incorporate Jeanie's suggestions in affiliation packet.

A presentation was made to Fay Corey for all her years of service. She gave the multihandicapped a firm place in NAPVI.

Resolutions

Group homes passed.

Re-release 94-142 with cover letter passed

Availability of materials passed

Confidentiality policy passed

Related Services passed

Henry made a motion that the ICU resolution be tabled. More information needs to be located regarding the issues involved. Parents should have a right to make to an informed decision.

Henry's address will change July 1, 1986.

Tom Auletta stated that we should have a Wednesday night pre-convention meeting which everyone must attend.

Henry Hedgecock stated that the registration packet should have the forms included to give permission to videotape and record comments, consents to be signed at registration.

Fay Corey will write an article called "When you sign your name."

All convention plans need to be relayed to Lee Robinson and Elaine Moses to keep them up to date.

Please list out what your committee responsibilities are and send to National Office.

Adjourned 11:50.

85.2 RESOLUTION ON RELATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, NAPVI recognizes that visually impaired children need the services of a credentialed teacher of the visually impaired and that many children need related services including, but not limited to, the following: occupational and/or physical therapy, adaptive P.E., speech and language therapy, orientation and mobility and transportation, and

WHEREAS, these services are sometimes not available because of lack of properly credentialed professionals, and

WHEREAS, the school district must retain the responsibility for ensuring that all related services are provided for each pupil as determined by the IEP and due process,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, actively supports the provision of appropriate related services to be insured without delay by the school district as specified by state and federal legislation.

85.1 RESOLUTION ON GROUP HOMES

WHEREAS, group homes can enhance the quality of life, especially for some visually impaired individuals currently placed in state institutions, and

WHEREAS, the existence of such homes will provide a necessary option in the continuum of services available to the visually impaired, and

WHEREAS, proper functioning of such homes is dependent upon adequate support services and follow-up,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, hereby advocates support measures leading to increase the number of placements available in quality group homes as an alternative on the continuum of services available.

85.3 RESOLUTION IN REAFFIRMATION OF P.L. 94.142

In recognition of the tenth anniversary of P.L. 94-142, the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is pleased to re-release our 1982 resolution and to re-affirm our commitment to the process and safeguards inherent in this landmark legislation:

82.1 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF P.L. 94-142

WHEREAS, The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI) exists to promote a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services for all blind and visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142 (the Education for all Handicapped Children Act) was implemented as a result of a decade of intensive efforts by parents and professionals working in concert on behalf of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 was intended and designed to promote the social and economic independence of disabled citizens and to reduce the incidence of restrictive and costly custodial institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 is an appropriate mechanism to ensure and provide for the active participation of parents in planning and implementing individualized educational programs for their disabled children, and creates due process safeguards for parental advocacy; and

WHEREAS, such independent parental advocacy, protected by due process safeguards, has stimulated more educational services to children with disabilities than in any other period of our national history; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive documentation is required by P.L. 94-142 to assure that legislative intent is carried out, and that such documentation can become excessive and counterproductive to the child's interest if left unchecked; and

WHEREAS, NAPVI supports efforts to keep excessive documentation to a minimum while monitoring individual student needs and the delivery of appropriate and effective educational services designed to ameliorate such needs; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in a significant long-term public savings through the enhancement of independent living skills of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in increased knowledge and technical benefits in the area of general education, benefiting society as a whole, while decreasing the social dependence of citizens with disabilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) reaffirms its complete support of P.L. 94-142; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI opposes pending and future attempts to emasculate P.L. 94-142 through deregulation, and especially through those efforts, which might result in the elimination or limitation of due process rights, safeguards, procedures, and other key provisions which protect the educational rights of handicapped children, their parents and guardians, and their teachers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI, its members, affiliates and the constituency it represents, unite to safeguard the spirit of P.L. 94-142, and to utilize every available resource to guarantee the rights of disabled children to a free and appropriate public education under this Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI actively support the full funding and implementation of P.L. 94-142 in the sure knowledge that this Act provides a cost-effective, equitable and moral response to the educational needs of all disabled children in these United States of America.

85.7 RESOLUTION ON AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS

WHEREAS, specially adapted materials are required for visually impaired students to participate fully in the educational process, and

WHEREAS, such materials are not received in a timely manner, that is, by the beginning of the school year for which they are needed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November, 1985, actively supports measures by local school districts, state departments of education and federal agencies to assure delivery of such materials, including, but not limited to, braille, large print, educational aids in the aforementioned timely manner.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

April 4-6, 1986

Arlington, Texas

The Executive Board Meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Friday, April 4 at the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, Arlington, Texas, by President Elaine Moses. Voting members present were Eileen Hudson, vice president and Henry Hedgecock, treasurer. Others were Board Member Gail Granados, Executive Director Lee Robinson, Gale Hedgecock and Keitha Robinson, acting secretary. Secretary Judith Stotland was unable to attend.

Prior to the session, the group met with various contractors and persons concerned with the implementation of NAPVI's first National Parent Conference, which will be held November 5-8, 1986. A brief summary of those interviews with representatives of the Arlington Convention Center, the Sheraton CentreParke, United Expositions, Schnieder and Associates, Naman and Associates and the Arlington Convention and Visitor's Bureau, is attached to these minutes. (See Appendix A.)

The Board discussed present business. Eileen Hudson has been notified that a parent group in Illinois is very interested in NAPVI affiliation. A spokesman from that group, Jan Gilson, has invited Region III Board Member Joan Johnson, Mrs. Hudson and Executive Director Lee Robinson to visit their group June 7. The Board discussed several issues: what the procedure should be when those applications come, how to assist a group to get started and how to assist them

with affiliation. It was agreed that when an application for affiliation is accepted it is important to have that regional representative working with that group as soon as possible so a feeling of responsibility develops. The Board decided that Joan Johnson should attend the meeting, upon consideration of the financial feasibility.

NAPVI has also been asked to exhibit April 17 in Ohio and May 7 in Geneva, Illinois. Dr. Robinson said we now have two exhibits and that he is searching for containers for shipping them. This would enable NAPVI to exhibit in various shows without the expense of sending a national board member. The group agreed that the ideal situation would be to find a local parent from our organization to run the booth in that location. Dr. Robinson stated we are getting a lot of requests for conference displays, especially from statewide A.E.R. groups.

As a matter of policy, all Board members attending meetings on NAPVI's behalf should keep all their meeting information collected prior to and during the meeting together in a folder and then send a report and the final file to the national office to be filed and to be documented in the newsletter. Dr. Robinson said such reports also help in compiling annual and five-year reports for funding sources.

Turning to Convention matters, those present discussed contract letters with various speakers. The letter itself needs to come from the national office as a contract-type thing. The matter needs coordination between the program committee chairperson and the program committee.

Discussion was held on paying for that-day meal tickets for those local speakers present during a meal; providing free registration for conference participants if they elect to stay for the entire Conference, paying expenses for those five or six old board members. The group decided that each case will

have to be looked at individually. Many of the Conference speakers' ways can be paid by their own agencies.

NAPVI has received a number of requests from individuals wanting to be presenters. A discussion as to whether to issue a Call for Papers followed, with Program Committee Chairman Eileen Hudson and Elaine Moses both agreeing that conference speakers and programs have been chosen by the Committee for their excellence and that such a call would only be issued as a last economic measure. That issue, along with payment for speakers, was tabled for a later session.

As a part of this meeting's agenda, the Program Committee will fill out function sheets on each general session and each workshop planned. Each function sheet will list speaker information, seating and room arrangements, session seating capacity and audio/visual needs.

Those present discussed the problem of obtaining sufficient up-front money to operate. Dr. Robinson said that the fact that NAPVI already has at least eight committed vendors and money in hand from an advertiser for the program book is good and that right now the Board is beginning to get a feel for food and facility costs.

Henry and Gale Hedgecock have donated two (2) week-long lodging tickets (to be used in December in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina) for a raffle. Dr. Robinson suggested that a set of raffle tickets costing \$1 could be attached to each member's second quarter, 1986 newsletter. The drawing is to be November 8, 1986. Eileen Hudson asked that NAPVI make certain the winner was announced in the following newsletter. A final decision on the raffle was tabled to a time later in this session.

Dr. Robinson presented a number of items which have come across the executive director's desk recently. Charitable Giving Associates, an Austin-based fund raising firm, has presented NAPVI a proposal to augment a term-life insurance plan, asking individuals to name NAPVI beneficiary in those policies. NAPVI Fund raiser Shawn O'Brien believes NAPVI is too young an organization to be successful at such a program, although the process can be done. Charitable Giving would prepare mail-outs, etc. The Board requested Dr. Robinson to study the matter further.

Dr. Robinson also distributed copies of the revised exhibitor's contract for the convention, stating that a map needs to be attached showing how to get from DFW Airport to Arlington, as well as a "Welcome."

In other matters, Mr. Robinson said all membership records are up to date. NAPVI has sold over 400 copies of Preschool Learning Activities. Also, the Blind Children's Center in Los Angeles is willing to let us distribute Heart to Heart, and Welcome to the World: Toys and Animals for Visually Impaired Children. A brief discussion followed as to the need to have sufficient NAPVI publications printed for the Conference and for the development of a new resource notebook for parents before the Conference.

Henry Hedgecock gave the Treasurer's Report. (See Appendix B.)

A discussion followed about the necessity for board members to be paid-up members. Mr. Hedgecock stated he feels dues of board members should be paid at the Annual Meeting when the entire Board convenes in November and, if a member is unable to attend that meeting, he/she should be required to submit dues within a specified time limit. The matter was tabled until later in the session.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

The Saturday, April 5, session of the Executive Board Meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel in Arlington, Texas. Those present were Elaine Moses, president; Eileen Hudson, vice president; Henry Hedgecock, treasurer. Others were Program Committee Members Diana Cuthbertson and Gail Granados, Gail Hedgecock, Keitha Robinson, acting secretary, Lee Robinson, executive director, AFB Regional Representative Judy Scott, and Sherry Magee, NAPVI member from Ft. Worth.

The following projected budget was presented by Treasurer Henry Hedgecock:

PROJECTED 1986-87 EXPENSES

| <u>INCOME</u> | | <u>EXPENSES</u> | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| \$26,000 | AFB | \$2,000 | PHONE |
| 3,000 | PUBLICATIONS | 7,500 | PUBLICATIONS |
| 4,500 | DUES | 2,000 | POSTAGE |
| 3,000 | GIFTS | \$630/MO = 7,560 | OUTSIDE SRVC. |
| 36,500 | TOTAL INCOME | \$250/MO = 3,150 | RENT |
| | | 250 | SUPPLIES |
| | | 10,000 | TRAVEL |
| | | 500 | ENDOWMENT |
| | | 500 | SCHOLARSHIP |
| | | 500 | MISC. |
| | | 50 | BANK CHARGE |
| | | 34,010 | TOTAL EXPENSES |

The Board welcomed Dottie Duke, representative of Naman and Associates, convention planners. Ms. Duke said Mr. Naman and Ms. Schneider will be at the Conference to see that all the meetingrooms are set up correctly and that all the sleeping rooms/VIP rooms are in order during the Conference. They will also help with the registration program and packets for participants. Naman will need a listing of NAPVI conference needs, including microphones, programs, audio-visual.

The Executive Committee and the Program Committee spent the morning going through each session, assigning room numbers, working up a needs list for audio, video, etc., and discussing participants for each session.

The Board discussed the issue of conference funding for parents. One particular concern is the Texas parents who could attend but might not be able to afford it. Various creative funding options were discussed, including contacting groups such as Lions Clubs and other service organizations. Dr. Robinson suggested making the list in the NAPVI handbook (see Appendix D) available on a reprint basis to parents. That raise-money list includes having bake sales, garage sales, etc. Diana Cuthbertson stated that it's important to stress the angle that most of us spend money on unnecessary items each day (i.e. new clothes, videos, etc.) and that saving is the best way to raise this money.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The afternoon session was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by President Elaine Moses, with Mr. Hedgecock and Mrs. Hudson present as voting members. Others were Mrs. Cuthbertson, Mrs. Granados, Dr. Robinson, Mrs. Hedgecock, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Robinson.

Detailing of program function sheets continued.

A discussion followed concerning payment of registration fees for the 80 plus speakers for the Convention. Projected revenue from those registrations totals \$8,000; is it right to ask speakers to pay registration fees? Dr. Robinson pointed out that it is going to cost an average of \$750 per person to come to this convention and extra \$250 for an additional person. He said that in many professional organizations presenters are expected to pay and that he believes that many speakers will be able to have their agencies' pay their registration fees. Mrs. Hudson said that the Program Committee will go through each individual case to decide ability to pay. Tabled.

In a discussion of the Call for Papers issue, Dr. Robinson suggested that the Program Committee could use the General Meeting Room and run several sessions where people presented their papers. They would all be at one time and it would be understood that NAPVI has publication rights to the papers. He suggested the theme "The Best in Current Practice: Papers Related to Work for the Blind." Mrs. Cuthbertson suggested that each presentation be limited to one-half hour for presentation, 15 minutes for questions and 15 for clean up. All papers selected must be parent-focused. It should be announced in the newsletter, with a deadline of August 1, 1986., so that all can be placed in the printed program. For those we have already received, we will write back, telling them we're still accepting applications and say they will be notified after August 1. The Board approved the suggestion.

Dr. Robinson asked the Board for authorization to move the new-member cut-off date from November 1 to September 1, in order to allow new members to receive a fair amount of newsletters and to give them a 16-month period. The renewals would still run from January to December 31, 1986. Mr. Hedgecock moved that dues paid for new members after September 1 be considered payment of dues through the following calendar year. The motion was seconded by Eileen Hudson and passed. Such a measure will now be recommended to the full Board.

Dr. Robinson also stated that the national office has received requests for developing a correspondence club for children and also for parents. He suggested that this could be run in an expanded newsletter.

An item of discussion for the general board is that we use paid advertising in AWARENESS, with the stipulation that the editor reserves final right to approve the advertising, that all advertising be limited to one section and that a disclaimer state that NAPVI does not endorse the product. Dr. Robinson said the issue came up when the American Printing House for the Blind approached him about advertising. Mrs. Cuthbertson and Mr. Hedgecock both expressed concern that the editor might be asked to accept something improper. Mrs. Cuthbertson offered to visit the offices of Exceptional Parent Magazine to determine the guidelines they use in accepting advertising. Mrs. Cuthbertson, Mr. Hedgecock and Dr. Robinson all agreed that, if the guidelines were well stipulated, it could be an excellent means of financing the publication. The decision of acceptance of paid advertising was tabled until the November meeting of the Board of Directors.

Mrs. Cuthbertson commended Mary Lou Wilkinson on the superb quality of the newsletters, particularly the First Quarter, 1986 edition. Dr. Robinson

suggested expanding the number of pages in the newsletter and the Executive Board agreed.

Those present suggested that in the newsletter there needs to be an annual financial report; also, more reports on Board meetings. With regard to the national conference, suggestions for newsletter articles were: information about the raffle, the alphabet soup contest and the put-your-child's-name-in-the-Conference-Program-for-\$10 effort.

Mrs. Cuthbertson and President Elaine Moses have drawn up a Conference Expense Sheet (See Attachment C) which individuals may use as a fund-raising tool in their communities when they approach others for donations for their conference attendance. Mrs. Cuthbertson stressed the fact that it is important to devote space in an upcoming edition of the newsletter to the fund-raising issue, with special emphasis on the fact that we all spend money every day on unnecessary things and that if we want to attend badly enough, we can save for it.

The meeting was adjourned for the day.

The Sunday, April 6, session of the NAPVI Executive Board Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by President Elaine Moses with Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock present as voting members. Also present were Program Committee Members Gail Granados and Diana Cuthbertson; Dr. Lee Robinson, Judy Scott, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Hedgecock.

Pres. Elaine Moses, noting that Region V Board Member Jeanie Flack, has been out of her region for almost a year, noted the necessity of not only re-appointing a Board Member from Region V, but of setting a policy which stipulates a specified time limit in which a Board Member may be absent from his/her region in order to continue service on the Board. Mrs. Moses expressed deep regret at having to replace Mrs. Flack, citing her many years of service to the Board. Inasmuch as Region V is having elections in the Fall, those present concurred that it is wise to make an interim appointment. Mrs. Moses will make the appointment after consideration of NAPVI members within the region. Dr. Robinson stressed the necessity of using non-Board NAPVI members to serve on committees and to help as much as possible in all regions.

Turning to other election matters, the Board discussed the proper time to hold an election of officers. Mr. Hedgecock moved that the membership quota on elections be placed at 500 parent members. Discussion of this is to be placed on the November Board Meeting agenda.

Guidelines for moderators have been drafted by the Program Committee. (See Attachment E).

The Program Committee has set tentative guidelines for the raffle. If approved during the conference call, it will be held November 8, with prizes the two (2) week-long lodging privileges at Myrtle Beach, SC. The winner will be

published in the newsletter. Ten tickets will be mailed to each member with the Second Quarter, 1986 newsletter; winners need not be present to win. Donation is \$1 per ticket. It is not exclusive to members. More tickets may be obtained. The Program Committee wishes it stressed in the newsletter that no transportation to Myrtle Beach will be provided. "Void in states where prohibited by law" must be imprinted on each ticket. Money and tickets should be sent to the National Office. All tickets will be numbered and state clearly "This is a donation." Voting by Program Committee members was unanimous. Mr. Hedgecock said many should be sold at the door.

The Program Committee also considered categories for door prizes to be awarded and offered the following suggestions: tag the chairs and announce "today the number will be"; award prizes to the first person that registered, the one who came the greatest distance, etc., parent with the youngest child, parent with the oldest VI child, etc.

Dr. Robinson discussed the pending litigation with the Crow interests. He has retained a lawyer, Charles Hoehne of Austin, with whom he has an unwritten agreement that the work won't cost NAPVI anything. Mr. Hoehne is willing to take the case on a percentage basis from there on. He has asked for no retainer. Dr. Robinson has asked all Board Members to turn in any expenses incurred by the closing of the NorthPark. (See Appendix F)

The Board also set down guidelines for ad solicitation for the Adbook/Program. NAPVI may keep the proceeds from all ads it sells itself; Dr. Robinson urged all Board members to contact individuals and firms for ads. If NAPVI supplies the art work on any ad (camera ready copy) the organization will get all the proceeds; if we merely supply the name to Schneider and Associates, they get the proceeds. A good suggestion for an ad is to enlarge a firm's

business card/logo; the NAPVI office has an infinite reduction/enlargement copier.

In a final run-through of conference items, the Board discussed the issue of allowing a single day registration. It was determined to set the amount per day at \$50. The meals (box lunches and banquet ticket) will not be a part of this) as they are included in the pre-registration price and the various catering firms must have a firm count prior to that day. The banquet ticket price will not be refunded. The Program Committee has asked that the Office provide a typed copy of the function sheets stemming from this meeting to each Committee Member.

Elaine Moses and Judy Scott will spearhead efforts in the Dallas area to solicit parent help in fund-raising and in volunteer support. They have set up a tentative monthly meeting schedule to work on this. Also, Ms. Scott offered the services of the community consultant in her office, Louise Stokes, to work with media coverage and other fund raising items.

Dr. Robinson and Ms. Moses will contact the Arlington Visitor's Bureau again to set up several tours, to be announced in the Third Quarter, 1986 AWARENESS.

The national office has received a few requests from other groups not wanting to pay \$400 for a booth but who want to get their information out. Those present felt that these groups should be contacted after October 1 saying that if they can get their materials to Arlington prior to the conference we will put it out on a central table, with the stipulation that NAPVI will not be responsible for this material at any point.

The exhibits will be ended by 5 p.m. Friday evening.

With regard to the registration packet, those present suggested that an evaluation sheet (to be drawn up by the Program Committee) about the conference sessions be included, along with instructions to attendees, a map of the hotel and convention center, restaurant guide, a Helen Keller shopping bag (provided by AFB), freebies from area merchants, a name tag, a NAPVI pen and a writing tablet. Gail Hedgecock is Registration Coordinator and she will be assisted by Mrs. Glenda Patton, Elaine Moses' mother.

A discussion also followed about to whom to award the Outstanding Contribution plaque at the convention. This will need to be an item to be settled during the Conference Call in May. The suggestions included Natalie Barraga, Sherry Raynor, Nancy Akeson and Margaret Blum. Those present noted that Dr. Barraga and Ms. Raynor are both parents of visually impaired children. Dr. Robinson said it would not be unusual during this conference year to award two. It was moved and seconded to name Dr. Barraga and Ms. Raynor as recipients of the Outstanding Contributor Award.

In discussing the Essay Contest (to be published in the Second Quarter 1986 edition of AWARENESS), the Program Committee set down the following guidelines: Kate Aldrich will supervise judging, with Mary Lou Wilkinson as chairman and other non-Board NAPVI members as needed. There will be three categories: parent, professional and child. A 500-word (2-3 page) limit has been placed on the amount written. The winners will be announced and need not be present. "Helping the parent of a visually impaired child" will be the topic. Braille or other acceptable forms of writing will be accepted. Winning entries will be read at the banquet. Entries must be signed and all entries become the property of NAPVI; they will not be returned. NAPVI reserves the right to them publish later.

Secretary Judith Stotland has suggested the Child Name List in the Program. Parents who would like to have their child listed in this commemorative book should send in \$10 (per child listing).

News releases about the Convention should be sent to major publications.

The Board has authorized Dr. Robinson to print a sufficient inventory of publications and NAPVI brochures to meet Conference demands.

In other business, Dr. Robinson stressed the importance of all Board members being paid up for 1986 prior to the Conference Call voting, in order to make the proceedings legal.

He stated that he has not yet received the renewals from two NAPVI affiliates, the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired and the Omaha Parents of the Visually Impaired. Ms. Moses stressed that it's important to receive these in a timely manner for the following reasons:

1) National Board members cannot vote or serve legally unless they are paid-up current members and 2) newsletters cannot be sent to past members after the first Quarter publication of each year. The Board instructed Dr. Robinson to send a follow-up letter to the treasurers of each affiliate reminding them of the importance of getting dues in on time, thus documenting the national office's efforts to assist and encourage affiliates in this matter. It was also suggested that the Executive Board meet with officers of the affiliates in question at some point.

The Executive Board moved and seconded the renewing of Executive Director and secretarial services contracts and salary with a 5 percent cost-of-living increase for the secretary. The executive director salary and office rent will remain the same. Eileen moved that we renew the contract for office services and Henry Hedgecock seconded.

Treasurer Henry Hedgecock has submitted the budget accounting for 1985-86.

(See Attachment B.)

Those present also authorized the setting up of an Endowment Fund, with \$500 to be dedicated for this purpose from the Budget. Dr. Robinson said guidelines for the endowment fund must show the purpose of the endowment and must specify the proportion (percentage) of the funds available for spending at any one time and under what conditions they may be spent. The Board also voted to set aside \$500 to begin a Scholarship Fund. Both of these matters must be approved by the Board in the May conference call.

It has been suggested that NAPVI make a once a year direct mail solicitation to the membership using a pledge card. Henry moved that this matter be brought before the Board at the November meeting and Eileen seconded.

The Board also authorized Dr. Robinson to contact the Internal Revenue Service in regard to a one-time filing of a form allowing 501(c)(3) organizations to use up to 20 percent of the organization's annual budget for political purposes without jeopardizing 501(c)(3) status. Dr. Robinson said the national office was recently notified it has been granted permanent 501(c)(3) status.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. by President Elaine Moses.

MIKE FOSTER - United Expositions Representative

- Carpeting the Exhibit Hall - \$960 to carpet only perimeters and \$1,334 to carpet the entire thing.

Agreed to use 50 booths instead of 70 and to have a lounge area, either along the side or in the center. If you have it in the center, the exhibitors will be happy but they also like the side.

United Expositions will place the packing boxes out of site or out in their trucks until 5 p.m. Friday.

United Expositions will furnish one 6 ft. booth and 2 chairs for each booth.

NAPVI must decide whether to alternate the blue and gold or which way to decorate; they will use a solid blue backdrop. Tables will be draped in blue with blue on white signs, signs 7 x 44 inches.

All aisles should be designed with mobility for visually impaired persons in mind. Those exhibitors paying the most money should have choice of best booths. Mr. Foster also pointed out that people walk straight down the aisles, they don't go left or right and that its better to bring people through the back way.

United Expositions needs the following information from NAPVI about exhibitors:

1. Company Name
2. ID sign to read
3. Booth number assigned
4. Address of exhibitor
5. Contact person to whose attention contract must go
6. Telephone number

United Expositions will assign a contact person for exhibitors from their office. They need their information about eight weeks out.

Exhibits will close on Friday at 5 p.m. United will not bring out the crates until that time. Mr. Foster said often they tell exhibitors they'll not be in the next show if they leave early. NAPVI should specify that there will be no security on Saturday; Mr. Foster probably will have his men clean up late Friday evening. The Exhibitor Information probably should state "Floor needs to be cleared by 9 p.m. Friday. We cannot go passed 12 noon Saturday."

TED LEWIS, General Manager of Convention Center

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MEETINGROOM AREA: E₂, E₁, M₁₋₁₀, podium areas in all rooms discussed.

Signs are available and additional signage has been ordered. "Exit Only" signs are available.

NAPVI has agreed to pay for one-set up only. Additonal set-up must be ordered if needed. Ideally, the convention center needs the room lay-outs two weeks in advance.

The Convention Center will provide one of the meeting rooms as a NAPVI Office; also, we can use the Arlington Suite for the Board.

Health services can be contracted through D & L Security, which the Center uses as the security detail. The guards are uniformed but not armed. The guards work for \$9. per hour. One security guard is sufficient for the NAPVI conference, to begin Wednesday at noon.

Services Provided by Convention Center:

Electrical

Telephones: can be ordered through Center. Basic \$85 for run of show
Center records all calls and prints up bill; 25 cents for local call.

Cleaning: Center will clean the center aisles; United will do the vacuuming; United will vacuum the exhibit booths if requested. Center will clean the rest of the area and take care of all trash.

Audio-Visual Services can be purchased in-house from Hoover, which is also available at the Sheraton. It's okay if we have an outside agency videotape using its own equipment. All Center owned equipment must be operated by Center staff. One mike will be provided in each meetingroom; additional mikes can be put on the floor of each room for participants, although there is an additional charge per mike. There is a line feed in each room for taping. There is not central area which picks up all the rooms but Hoover can work with us on anything we have. The general session room has better lighting than most of the meetingrooms.

Several things that are forbidden by the Convention Center:

No helium balloons (strings get caught in rafters); no stickers

The Convention Center must submit a lay-out map of our Conference to the Fire Marshall. It takes at least a week to get it approved.

CATERING (John Drozic)

Food functions - John Drozic will present a proposal for our two box lunches. He will sell coffee, donuts and milk provided by the Center for the sessions for breakfast, at no cost to NAPVI.

Brief discussion ensued about selling food in competition with the Center. Giving away samples, i.e. health food packets, is not competition.

All that NAPVI or its exhibitors do in the way of impersonalized pens, T-shirts, baseball caps, etc.

CONVENTION AND VISTORS BUREAU - Debra Loyd

The Visitors Bureau can furnish up to 3 people to handle registration, tags, large print typewriters (NAPVI will probably have its logo imprinted onto tags but will use the plastic badge itself.)

The VB will provide a display of collateral brochures on sites near Arlington - to be placed in the registration area.

Registration times will be from 3-6 Wednesday; 8-6, Thursday; 8-5, Friday.

Tours - VB can arrange tours to Dallas for shopping, for sightseeing, to Southfork and to Ft. Worth/BillyBob's/the stockyards. Southfork Ranch is an 8 to dusk type of tour, but the others can be done in 4 hours. If you plan to go to a show at Billy Bob's, you must be there at 10:30 p.m., which is too late for a bus run, which ends at midnight.

The VB can charter buses for us, but we will be invoiced directly from the bus company. One bus company will be chartered for \$190 dollars for the first four hours and \$30 for each additional hour. The buses are 46 passenger.

It was the general consensus that we run one Saturday night tour to Ft. Worth Stock Yards and two tours on Sunday, one to Dallas/Shopping and one to Dallas/Sightseeing.

HELEN SCHNEIDER - Schneider and Associates

Ms. Schneider brought a rough of the adbook/program, which will again feature the picture of Jeanie and Kenny Flack. It will be a 36-page program and one ad has already been sold to Computer Conversations for one-half of a cover page. (See attached addendum.)

There will be 24 pages of ads; she suggested leaving 8 pages for agenda and other, suggestions of which are:

1. Information on Board
2. Speakers' Biographies
3. Membership information
4. History of NAPVI
5. Tour options following Conference
6. Greetings from the President
7. Greetings from the Executive Director

We would like this book to be a resource book that will be kept and used by parents, so we would like the names, addresses and phone numbers of exhibitors and some agencies to be included.

Ms. Scheider will be contacting local companies, for ads for the book.

Ms. Schneider would like board members to send her addresses and contact people in their locales they do business with who might be interested in buying an ad for the program/book. (See attached.)

Lee said he is also planning to ask for donated equipment for the conference from Apple, Canon Copiers, etc.

TERRY WEEKS - Hotel Catering

Mr. Weeks described his services and will bring back proposals for the two box lunches and for the sit down meal and banquet.

On the sit-down dinners, salads and desserts will be pre-set for time considerations.

The NAPVI contract with the Sheraton specifies a beer party, punch and cookies. The Board would like to change this, and Mr. Laska, general manager, has offered to put out a buffet with a cash bar for \$2.00 per person, instead.

NAPVII Financial Report

Appendix B

Checking Account

| Beginning Balance 9/01/85 | Expenses | Receipts | Balance |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | 7345.67 |
| Phone | 674.85 | 0 | (674.85) |
| Publications | 7713.29 | 2,385.50 | (5327.79) |
| Postages | 1345.92 | 55.50 | (1290.42) |
| Outside Service | 4800.00 | 0 | (4800.00) |
| Rent | 2047.23 | 0 | (2047.23) |
| Contributions | 0 | 13,809.73 | 13809.73 |
| Travel | 6,618.34 | 102.00 | (6516.34) |
| Bank Charge | 7.00 | 0 | (7.00) |
| Supplies | 31.90 | 0 | (31.90) |
| Dues | 15.00 | 1974.60 | 1959.60 |
| Misc. | 320.60 | 0 | (320.60) |
| Conference | 613.00 | 530.00 | (83.00) |
| | 24,187.13 | 18,857.33 | |
| Ending Balance 3/31/86 | | | 2,015.87 |

Saving Account & Certificate of Deposits:

| | Savings | CD | Total |
|---------------------------|---------|------|---------|
| Beginning Balance 9/01/85 | 2517.10 | 7000 | 9517.10 |
| Interest | 324.45 | | 324.45 |
| Ending Balance 3/31/86 | 2841.55 | 7000 | 9841.55 |

Henry H. Hedgecock
Treasurer
NAPVII

APPENDIX C

(THE FOLLOWING ESTIMATED COST FORM HAS BEEN PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL BY ELAINE AND DIANA, AND SHOULD BE SENT TO ALL SPEAKERS FOR THE CONFERENCE.)

Following is a list of anticipated expenses for those presenting. This may be helpful in soliciting support for estimated costs for attending NAPVI's first National Parent Conference, November 5-8, 1986, Arlington, Texas.

Generally, you are expected to pay gratuities.

Call Delta for half-fare NAPVI discount.

Plane fare to Arlington from _____

| | | |
|--------------|--------|--------------|
| Registration | Parent | <u>\$100</u> |
|--------------|--------|--------------|

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | Professional | <u>\$150</u> |
|--|--------------|--------------|

(fee includes four meals)

Room (Double/Single Occupancy)

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 3 nights at 60 | <u>\$180</u> |
|----------------|--------------|

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Additional Food Costs | <u>\$ 50</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Taxi Fare | <u>12</u> |
|-----------|-----------|

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

MOTIVES FOR GIVING

Most people give to satisfy some personal need or desire. Knowledge of these needs and recognition of which one applies to a particular potential donor will help fundraisers direct their efforts to a more productive end.

The following are possible needs of donors:

1. People want to belong to worthwhile causes or groups.
2. People want to help perform work that is beneficial to others.
3. People want recognition which comes from the recipient organization.
4. People want to be asked in the right way, at the right time for the right amount.
5. People want a cause to believe in.
6. People need respect from the community.
7. People need to express gratitude for services to themselves or others.
8. People need a sense of immortality or of leaving a legacy.
9. People need to feel powerful.
10. People need to have a return on their investment through tax benefits preventing future costs, etc.
11. People need to provide for their salvation with good deeds.
12. People need to help others in distress.
13. People need to have the 'joy of giving.'

The needs expressed in the above statements are primarily psychological. Perhaps the strongest motivating factor in fund raising efforts is the donor's need to help in the betterment of mankind.

It should be remembered that the key factor is that individuals, corporations, organizations, clubs, foundations, government agencies, etc. do have money to give.

FUND RAISING

I. Sources of funds (39.5 Billion in 1978)

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Individual donors | 82.9% |
| Gifts by Bequests | 6.6% |
| Foundations | 5.5% |
| Corporations | 5.0% |

II. Reasons for Giving (for 1978) (These seem to have remained constant for the past ten years.)

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Religion | 46.5% |
| Health and Hospitals | 13.8% |
| Education | 14.0% |
| Social Welfare | 10.0% |
| Arts and Humanities | 6.3% |
| Civic and Public | 2.9% |
| Other | 6.5% |

III. Types of Fund Raising Events

A. Annual Campaign

--designed for acquiring operating funds annually with a specified amount as the objective

B. Capital Campaign

--designed to acquire an endowment which will generate operating funds through interest earnings

C. Business Enterprise

--designed to acquire funds through retail sales, unsolicited merchandise, special products or services. Contract work.

D. Project Fund Raising

--designed to accomplish a certain job, such as build a center, develop a brochure, assist with a specified amount, effort or service.

IV. Cost of Fund Raising

A. On the average, no more than 15 percent of the amount raised should be spent for the event. Initial start-up costs may be more.

B. The lack of funds needed to do the job right should never be used as an excuse for doing it badly.

COMPONENTS OF A PROPOSAL

A project usually emanates from the mind of one or more persons to satisfy a particular need. How can we solve this problem? Funding will be required. An idea for the solution to the problem can then be developed into a proposal.

The following components should be included in a proposal:

1. An abstract (summary) statement
2. A statement of the problems or questions to be addressed
3. The goals or purposes of the project
4. Measurable objectives or expected quantitative outcomes
5. Procedures and a calendar to be followed to achieve the objectives.
6. An evaluative assessment or built-in evaluation strategy
7. Multiplier factors or uses to which the findings can be put for a broader segment of the population (emphasizing long range benefits).
8. Descriptions of facilities and equipment necessary
9. Availability of qualified personnel and their designations
10. A detailed budget

When applying for governmental funding, the agencies will usually have guidelines which must be followed strictly. Application forms are usually supplied with the request for proposal. One must usually ask to receive a copy of the requests for proposals from a particular agency or department.

Requests for foundation funds usually require less elaborate proposals, but the essential components still should be included.

Understanding what the funding agency, foundation or corporation is interested in funding is an essential part of writing a proposal. Often requests and proposals are doomed from the start because of the nature of the project rather than the quality of the proposal. Careful research into the priorities of the foundation may save time and money spent preparing an unsuccessful proposal.

FUND-RAISING EVENTS

Each of the following types of fund-raising events has as little or as much potential as organizations have imagination. For example, a 'decorator's showcase' could involve as little as a single day activity of a single house to a national effort in cooperation with the American Society of Interior Designers. The only limitations are the effort and imagination of the fund raisers. What follows is a list of general fund-raising categories with general ideas under each:

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION EVENTS:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| --Decorator's Showcase | --House Tours |
| --Garden Walks | --Art Shows |
| --Craft and Hobby Shows | --Dances |
| --Fairs and Festivals | --Carnivals |
| --Las Vegas Night | --Fun Fairs |
| --Card Parties and Bingo | --Marathons |
| --Beauty Contests | --Excursions |
| --Trade Shows | --Telethons |
| --"Days" (e.g. Poppy Day) | --Other |

MERCHANDISE EVENTS:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| --Auctions | --Antique Shows |
| --Raffles | --Rummage Sales |
| --Flea Markets | --Garage Sales |
| --Bazaars | --Book Sales |
| --Plant Sales | --Specialized Merchandise Sales |
| --Product Sales | --Other |

FOOD AND DRINK EVENTS:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| --Big Dinners | --Luncheons |
| --Fashion Shows | --Coffees and Teas |
| --Cocktail Parties | --Wine and Cheese Parties |
| --Community Dinners | --Ethnic Dinners |
| --Picnics | --Potluck Suppers |
| --Roasts | --Other Food Evenings |

PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| --Plays and Musicals | --Concerts |
| --Movie Premieres | --Celebrity Lectures |
| --Amateur Entertainment | --Others |

HOLIDAY EVENTS:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| --Christmas | --New Year's Eve |
| --Halloween | --Labor Day |
| --Valentine's Day | --Fourth of July |
| --Founders Day | --Other |

PAGE TWO: FUND-RAISING EVENTS

ATHLETIC EVENTS:

- Tournaments
- Celebrity Participations
- Concessions at Semi-Pro Contests
- Exhibition Games
- Winter Carnivals
- Other

SERVICE EVENTS:

- Car Wash
- Babysitting at Shopping Malls
- Sale of Handicrafts
- House Painting
- Summer Employment Service
- Pillow Cleaning Service
- Fertilizer Delivery
- Other

DO-IT-YOURSELF TRAINING EVENTS:

- Microwave Cooking
- Home Entertainment Ideas
- Macrame
- Outdoor Gardening
- How to Use Cosmetics
- Weaving
- Identifying Genuine Antiques
- Bagel Making
- Flower Arrangements
- Care of House Plants
- Babysitter Clinics
- Self-defense Courses
- Sewing
- Other

POTPOURI:

- Product Sales
- Running Your Own Business
- Salvage
- Door-to-Door Distribution
- Gifts and Door Prizes
- Using Homes for Merchandize displays
- Special Publications
- Discount Tie-ins
- Direct Mail Solicitations
- Proceeds Days
- Trading Stamp Donations
- Other

Each of the events listed above can be profitable to organizations of any size. Many of them take manpower and some money. Remember, however, that donations can also be obtained for these too. Do not hesitate to solicit help from other organizations to make your fund-raising event a success.

When considering any fund-raising event, be sure you know the local laws and taxes which apply to such events and comply totally. Use and sale of alcoholic beverages is usually prohibited at public events. Special permits may be required, sales tax may be required, etc. Check with the local authorities to make sure that you are operating within the law.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES CHECKLIST:

Public Agencies

- ☐ 40 State Department of Education ✓
- ☐ 41 Public Health Department
- ☐ 42 Welfare Department
- ☐ 43 Children's Services Division
- ☐ 44 Juvenile Department
- ☐ 45 Crippled Children's Division
- ☐ 46 Probation Office
- ☐ 47 Mental Health Clinics (Service Coord., Developmental Disabilities)
- ☐ 48 Park and REcreation Department
- ☐ 49 School Board (s)
- ☐ 50 Vocational Rehabilitation
- ☐ 51 Intermediate Education Districts
- ☐ 52 Councils of Government
- ☐ 53 Social Security
- ☐ 54 Fire Department
- ☐ 55 Mail Carriers
- ☐ 56 Police Department

Social and Civic Groups

- ☐ 57 Senior Citizens Groups
- ☐ 58 Elks
- ☐ 59 Lions
- ☐ 60 Moose
- ☐ 61 Soroptimists
- ☐ 62 Masons
- ☐ 63 International Order of Odd Fellows
- ☐ 64 Active 20-30 Clubs
- ☐ 65 Knights of Columbus
- ☐ 66 Political Clubs
- ☐ 67 Area Alumni Clubs
- ☐ 68 Juvenile athletic and social clubs
- ☐ 69 Jaycees
- ☐ 70 Boy and Girl Scouts
- ☐ 71 YM-YWCA
- ☐ 72 Rotary
- ☐ 73 Kiwanis
- ☐ 74 Area Women's Clubs
- ☐ 75 Optimists
- ☐ 76 League of Women Voters
- ☐ 77 Eagles
- ☐ 78 Altrusa
- ☐ 79 Alpha Beta Kappa
- ☐ 80 Other _____

25 Telephone Pioneers

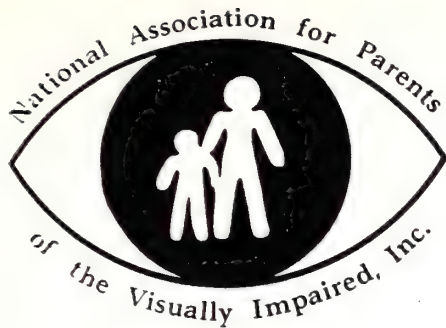
Private Organizations

- ☐ 33 PTA
- ☐ 34 Oregon Association for Retarded Citizens
- ☐ 35 Epilepsy Foundation
- ☐ 36 Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children
- ☐ 37 Council for Exceptional Children
- ☐ 38 Oregon Association for Children with Learning Disabilities
- ☐ 39 Association of Parents of the Deaf
- ☐ 40 Oregon Association for the Deaf

- ☐ 41 Oregon Council for the Blind
- ☐ 42 Mental Health Association of Oregon
- ☐ 43 March of Dimes Foundation
- ☐ 44 Society for Autistic Children
- ☐ 45 United Cerebral Palsy of Oregon
- ☐ 46 Sectarian and/or non sectarian community centers
- ☐ 47 Catholic Charities
- ☐ 48 All area churches and church groups
- ☐ 49 Volunteers of America
- ☐ 50 Planned Parenthood
- ☐ 51 Urban League
- ☐ 52 NAACP

Vocation/Professional Organizations

- ☐ 53 Teacher's organizations
- ☐ 54 Foresters
- ☐ 55 Grange
- ☐ 56 Farm Bureau
- ☐ 57 National Farmer's Organization
- ☐ 58 Farmer's Union
- ☐ 59 4-H
- ☐ 60 Labor Unions
- ☐ 61 Businessmen's Associations
- ☐ 62 Employee's Associations
- ☐ 63 Chamber of Commerce
- ☐ 64 Medical Society
- ☐ 65 Dental Society
- ☐ 66 Business and Professional Women
- ☐ 67 4-C Programs
- ☐ 68 Local Hospitals
- ☐ 69 Community colleges
- ☐ 70 College Special Education Departments
- ☐ 71 Head Start/Preschool Programs
- ☐ 72 Day Care Programs
- ☐ 73 Parents of Handicapped Children
- ☐ 74 Cooperatives
- ☐ 75 Public Utilities



- support
- information
- service

P. O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

Officers

Elaine Moses, President
Austin, Texas
Elleen Hudson, Vice President
Beloit, Wisconsin
Judith Stotland, Secretary
North Hollywood, California
Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer
Charleston, South Carolina

Board of Directors

Diana Cuthbertson
Boston, Massachusetts
Norma Lucas
Girard, Ohio
Joan Johnson
Springfield, Missouri
Thomas Auletta
Keystone Heights, Florida
Jeanie Flack
Billings, Montana
Kate Aldrich
Santa Ana, California
Gail Granados
Norwich, Connecticut

Executive Director

Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
Austin, Texas

April 24, 1986

Mrs. Lucy Crow Billingsly, President
Market Center Company
2100 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207

Dear Mrs. Billingsly,

It has been more than three months since I sent the information requested by Mr. Buddy McCree. There have been no further requests for information nor have there been any questions. Since it seems like more than ample time to make any inquiries and reach a decision has passed, I am writing to inquire what steps will be taken by your company to meet the terms of the contract between the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. and the North Park Inn and Convention Center. I had hoped that an agreement regarding this matter would have been reached before this time.

We have now contracted with another hotel and are proceeding with arrangements for our convention as we indicated that we must do in our last correspondence. This continuation of program planning has identified specific damages in costs to our organization which were only speculative before. An updated list of expenses is attached to this letter. We can furnish documentation for these expenses.

As extended contact with our members and other potential participants takes place we still face embarrassment because of the information sent before notification of the closing of the North Park Inn. Also, the loss of time caused by having to re-plan and negotiate new contracts is having serious effects on previously planned efforts to advertise and attract potential attendees, paid program advertising and exhibits. The delays have caused serious problems in each instance and may prove to be serious detriments to the success of the convention. While we are making every effort to see that the change of location and time delays have minimal effects it will only be known, for certain, what damages have occurred when the conference evaluation is complete.

April 2, 1986
Lucy Crow Billingsly

As mentioned above, we had hoped that this matter could have already been decided. We believe that a breach of contract has occurred and that actual damages are due for the wasted materials, duplication of time spent, and revenue lost because of differences in expenses at the new location as well as other equally real but currently difficult to quantify damages to the organization. We are willing to discuss these matters and come to a reasonable settlement with as little publicity as possible.

Mrs. Billingsly, we feel certain that you are interested in doing what is fair. NAPVI is a non-profit, service organization whose members have much emotional as well as financial stress on a day-to-day basis. As a result of the type of organization we are and the group we serve, we have no large endowment or other funding sources that can replace the money lost as a result of North Park Inn's breach of contract. We really have no choice but to recover our losses. If this cannot be done soon by private discussion and agreement we will be forced to put the matter in the hands of an attorney. Please let us have a concrete proposal or offer from you before May 15, 1986.

I look forward to hearing from you and finding a solution to this matter.

Sincerely,



Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: NAPVI Board
Charles W. Hoehne
NAPVI Attorney

STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

Printing and mailing costs

Previously submitted (see letter of Nov. 11, 1986 attached) \$ 3,383.00

Extra planning meeting costs caused by relocation (held in Arlington April 3-6, 1986)

Lost time of Program Committee members

6 people x 3 day at an average of \$100.00/day 1,800.00

3 nights lodging and meals for Program Committee 981.57

Transportation for Program Committee 1,102.00

Duplication of service & time between Nov. 5, 1985 and March 22, 1986 This is the time spent on activities of finding and concluding contracts with Sheraton CenterPark and Arlington Convention Center.

Executive Director 75 1/2 hrs. @\$25.00/hr. 1,887.50

Office Manager 25 hrs. @\$10.00/hr 250.00

Telephone costs 215.00

Room Rates

The actual cost difference between North Park Inn and Negotiated rate at Sheraton CenterPark \$5.00/room night.

300 rooms times 3 nights times \$5.00 = \$4,500.00 4,500.00

Margarita party for exhibitors

This was in the original contract with North Park Inn and now is being purchased from the Arlington Convention center for the amount of \$2,000.00 2,000.00

Decorator Costs

Difference in costs per booth because of new location
\$16.00/booth x 50 booths 800.00

Cost of carpeting for general session area (section E-4) 6,000 sq. ft. @ \$2.00/sq.yd. \$1,334.00 1,334.00

Risers for speakers platform general session area rental from convention center 150.00

Total Costs related to Breach of Contract
Through April 6, 1986 \$18,402.00

Total received from North Park Inn - 0 -

Balance Due \$18,402.00



- support
- information
- service

P. O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

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Thomas Auletta
Keystone Heights, Florida
Jeanie Flack
Billings, Montana
Lee Aldrich
Santa Ana, California
Gail Granados
Norwich, Connecticut
Executive Director
Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
Austin, Texas

November 11, 1985

Patricia F. Smith, Vice President
Trade Shows and Conventions Division
Dallas Market Center Company
2100 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207


Dear Ms. Smith:

Following is an accounting of expenses incurred by the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) for its 1986 National Parent Convention in Dallas.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Composition | \$ 160.00 |
| Layout and Design | 85.00 |
| Typesetting | 101.00 |
| Paper and Printing | 1,678.30 |
| Brochure Subtotal | <u>2,024.30</u> |
| Packaging and Mailing | 87.50 |
| Labor | 42.50 |
| Distribution Subtotal | <u>125.00</u> |
| Secretarial Labor 47 Hours @ 7.50 Per Hour | 351.00 |
| Vendor Invitation and Letters | 375.00 |
| Missed Mailing | 500.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$ 3,383.00</u> |

We need to be reimbursed immediately for these expenses in order to correct the previously dispersed misinformation.

Sincerely,


Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
Executive Director

LWR/ks

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

MINUTES, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1986

The annual Board of Directors meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was called to order at the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, Arlington, Texas at 9:20 a.m., with Elaine Moses, president, presiding. Those present were Eileen Hudson, vice president; Judith Stotland, secretary; Henry Hedgecock, treasurer; Diana Cuthbertson, Norma Lucas, Joan Johnson, Tom Auletta, Kay McKnight and Kate Aldrich, Board members; Jacqueline Carroll, immediate past president; Fay Corey, Mary Lou Wilkinson, Gale Hedgecock, Linda Katskee, Jeanie Flack and Laura Vidal, former Board members; Dr. Lee Robinson, executive director; Keitha Robinson, office manager; Dr. Alana Zambone, AFB liaison to the NAPVI Board. Guests present were Dr. and Mrs. Orlando Aponte of Guayabo, Puerto Rico and Sheila Miles, a NAPVI member and representative of the Florida Parents Association.

The meeting convened following NAPVI's first national parent conference, which began November 5 and utilized the services of both the Sheraton and the Arlington Convention Center. In opening remarks Mrs. Moses stated that the effort had been a successful one for NAPVI, citing many remarks and positive responses from the evaluations which had been circulated.

After officially receiving the NAPVI gavel from immediate past-president Jacqueline Carroll, Mrs. Moses thanked Mrs.

Carroll for her many hours of dedicated service. Mrs. Moses also welcomed in-coming Region V Board Member Kay McKnight and noted that Kate Aldrich is beginning a new term on the Board as well, following her successful election bid. Mrs. Moses also welcomed Dr. Zambone, national consultant in early childhood at AFB, who has assumed liaison duties with NAPVI.

She then introduced Dr. and Mrs. Aponte, who expressed appreciation for the conference they had just attended. They requested the Board's consideration of Puerto Rico as a future convention site. Dr. Aponte said that they intend to return to their country with a positive message to parents and with much to share from the convention. They pledged their help in seeking funds to host such a conference in the future. Dr. Robinson noted that he has received literature and had phone conversations with representatives of the Puerto Rican Tourist Bureau.

Tom Auletta also introduced another parent, Mrs. Sheila Miles, who said she had benefited greatly from the Convention. Mrs. Miles said she feels her area needs NAPVI and thanked the Board for giving her the tools to return to her state and help other parents.

Dr. Zambone offered congratulations to the Board on behalf of the American Foundation for the Blind and reassured those present that AFB is very proud of NAPVI and will continue to support the organization.

Minutes of the preceding two meetings of the Board were read, with Henry Hedgecock moving that they be accepted. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report followed. Mr. Hedgecock stated that last year the organization took in \$43,793. At the end of August, NAPVI had \$6,598 with another \$10,294.61 in the savings account. Since that time, all of the monies have been removed from savings; a \$3,000 CD was closed down as well. Mr. Hedgecock, in talking of expenses incurred at the Convention, stated that both the hotel and the convention center will bill the organization directly. It was moved, seconded and carried to authorize Mr. Hedgecock to release the remaining \$4,000 CD if necessary in order to pay convention bills. Eileen Hudson moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Hedgecock also submitted a budget plan for the coming year. (See Attachment A.) Kate Aldrich moved that the budget be approved; it was seconded and the motion carried.

Mrs. Moses announced that it is necessary at this time to accept the resignation of Dr. Lee Robinson as executive director. Dr. Robinson said he will accept full-time employment at Hadley School for the Blind in Winnetka, Illinois February 1. Additionally, Keitha's Typing Service is being sold to Ms. Susan Lewis of Austin, Texas, who operates a medical temporaries business. This means that NAPVI will need to search out new office space within the next few months.

Discussion followed on obtaining basic office equipment. The motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize Mrs. Moses and Dr. Robinson to make necessary decisions over the next several months in order to locate office space and sustain the organization. The search for a new executive director is also a high priority and Dr. Robinson had several suggestions in this area.

Dr. Zambone said that she will see what the American Foundation for the Blind might do in the area of donated office equipment to help out in this transition period.

The ensuing discussion centered on restructuring many NAPVI committees. Committee assignments include: Eileen Hudson, Jeanie Flack, Judi Stotland and Dr. Zambone as members of the implementation committee for the Technical/Advisory Board; Elaine Moses, Gail Granados and Diana Cuthbertson as members of the Ad Hoc Special Committee; Jeanie Flack, Eileen Hudson, Linda Katskee and Judi Stotland (alternate) as members of the Affiliations Committee; Fay Corey and Jeanie Flack as members of the Awards Committee; Henry Hedgecock, Gale Hedgecock and Eileen Hudson as members of the Fund Raising Committee; Jackie Carroll and Mary Lou Wilkinson as members of the Grandparents Committee; Elaine Moses, Kay McKnight and Dr. Zambone as members of the Lists of Lists Committee; Mary Lou Wilkinson and the complete Board as members of the Newsletter Committee; Norma Lucas, Fay Corey and Joan Johnson as members of the Membership Committee, Henry Hedgecock, Gale Hedgecock, Diana Cuthbertson, Gail Granados and

Eileen Hudson as members of the Program/Service Committee, Jackie Carroll as chairman of the Publicity Committee, Fay Corey, Jeanie Flack and Gale Hedgecock as members of the Research and Review Committee; Kate Aldrich, Judith Stotland, Elaine Moses and Dr. Zambone as members of the Resolutions Committee, Henry Hedgecock, Diana Cuthbertson and Norma Lucas as members of the Scholarship Committee and Diana Cuthbertson as chairman of the Nominations Committee.

The Board next discussed the advisability of disbanding the Grandparents Committee, following a report from Jackie Carroll and Mary Lou Wilkinson, both of whom felt that such a group would be difficult to maintain and to keep viable in any way other than as a funding source. Dr. Robinson recommended that a listing of grandparents be kept for funding purposes. Kate Aldrich suggested that giving a grandparent a NAPVI membership would be a unique "stocking stuffer" at Christmas. The Grandparents Committee was dropped at this time.

Also dropped was the Ad Hoc Special Committee, which has fulfilled its usefulness. It had been charged with the responsibility of studying the California Guidelines which have now been published. The recommendation was made to Mrs. Wilkinson that an item about these materials be placed in the newsletter, listing Jack Hazekamp, California State Department Vision Consultant, as contact person for ordering information.

As a side issue, Dr. Robinson raised the question as to whether the souvenir program from this weekend's first national

convention should be reprinted for sale. Mr. Hedgecock stated that he doesn't feel it should be reproduced for sale--the information should be offered free to parents. Dr. Robinson said there is not a big inventory of programs remaining; those that are must go to those who purchased ads for the book. Looking at possible charge-back cost, Mr. Hedgecock said it would have to carry a price tag of \$3 or \$4. Dr. Robinson then proposed that the information within the booklet be incorporated into the revisions of Take Charge! Mrs. Hudson urged all those present to save and use their program booklets.

In discussing Affiliation Committee matters, Jeanie Flack called for a plan of action for working with affiliates.

Mrs. Corey, who is chairperson of the Awards Committee, suggested that the Board may wish to have an Outstanding Parent category in the near future; if so, criteria must be laid down for such. Mrs. Corey presented Immediate Past President Jacqueline Carroll with a plaque denoting her years of service as an officer of NAPVI.

In discussing priorities of the Fund Raising Committee, Dr. Robinson reminded the Board that this is the area where NAPVI has had its greatest struggle. He stated that the energizing ripple effect of this conference is going to have to be generated quickly, which takes funding. He feels that NAPVI must now double its membership as quickly as possible. He said that within the past week he has received two proposals from fund raisers. One came from Ida Ruth Plymale, an Austin consultant

certified in the fund raising area, who indicated a willingness to work with NAPVI. Mrs. Plymale's first priority would be to formulate a five-year plan of NAPVI activities integrating fund raising, with a price tag to NAPVI of \$1,000 up front to pay for her time. The first \$15,000 raised would go to her, as well, and from that point it would be a percentage estimated at 15 percent.

Another fund-raising option is that suggested by Fay Corey. A NAPVI parent in Pennsylvania, John Hendricks, has put forth the idea of a Father's Club, wherein various members would go to the companies they work for with funding proposals for NAPVI. Dr. Robinson said he feels the idea has merit in that the fund-raiser would already be educated about the organization. He said that he has talked to Mr. Hendricks, who is close to the same national certification in fund raising as Ms. Plymale. Mr. Hendricks is the executive director of a drug rehabilitation program and has a 17-year-old blind daughter. His address and phone number is 207 Merlin Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460, 215/365-1983.

In a general discussion of the high priority fund raising must take, Dr. Robinson stated that as NAPVI grows, more members are going to want more services, i.e. workshops, etc. Tom Auletta suggested the possibility of applying for field grants from agencies such as Mississippi State University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center. Ms. Vidal sees the need for more AWARENESS articles on single parenting and fathers; she also suggested the benefit of an endorsement from a star like Stevie Wonder.

Dr. Robinson sees the need for a short run of immediate operating monies to augment the NAPVI budget and then a cushion of CDs to generate an annual, steady operating budget.

Turning to newsletter matters, Dr. Robinson brought forth the proposal to accept paid advertising for AWARENESS. He said that historically NAPVI has steered clear of paid advertisements, perhaps because of the fear that it would be an implied endorsement. However, he has been approached by the American Printing House for the Blind and, upon consideration, he recommends that it would be an excellent way to generate revenues to pay for newsletter costs. The Board discussed methods of making sure that the membership understands that the ads are not a paid endorsement. Suggestions were to insert two "centerfolds" into the newsletter of a different color and to mark such pages clearly as "Paid Advertisement; No Endorsement" and perhaps even "Parents Should Be Cautioned." Mrs. Hudson moved that NAPVI accept paid advertising, with the disclaimer stating that the organization does not endorse the product and with the stipulation that NAPVI has editorial discretion. [No records appear in the transcriber's minutes as to a second or a vote on this issue at this time.] Dr. Robinson then inquired as to when he could begin accepting advertising; Mr. Hedgecock suggested that advertising begin by the summer edition of 1987.

Mrs. Moses stated that she hopes it will be possible by the fall of 1987 to hold an election of officers. Mr. Hedgecock noted that NAPVI now has the specified 500 members necessary.

Mrs. Cuthbertson of the Nominations Committee will begin her election procedures.

In a discussion of the Membership Committee, which is charged with promotion of the organization, Dr. Robinson said he feels that committee should study ways to help new affiliates and to keep them on track. Tom Auletta suggested that the committee needs to write and develop guidelines for new member groups, in the form of training packages. Dr. Robinson said the conference audio tapes and video tapes should provide excellent material for this effort.

Mrs. Moses played a portion of one of the audio tapes, noting the excellent clarity. Bobby Patton, her brother, spent the conference going between session rooms to keep the tapes operating and the Board expressed its appreciation for his time and effort. Mrs. Moses' parents, Bob and Glenda Patton and her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Duffy Nabholtz, who all reside in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, have been tireless in their activities at the convention and letters of appreciation are to be written to them by Office Manager Keitha Robinson.

The Board authorized Mrs. Moses and Dr. Robinson to prepare the tapes, both video and audio, for possible sale and for organization promotion. The video portions were done by the Texas Commission for the Blind, under the direction of Linda Beth Litowski and Billy Brookshire. In return, the Commission requests a copy of the final product. Mrs. Moses noted that the videotaping possibilities from the convention are endless.

In a summary of the evaluations received back from the conference, Eileen Hudson stated that the overall consensus was of a great conference. Of the approximately 80 forms returned, only four were negative. She feels that the individual workshop sessions were well accepted and enjoyed by participants and that the general sessions were very successful. She noted that the evaluations clearly show both the parent and the professional viewpoint. She stated that the banquet speaker, Geraldine Lawhorn of Hadley School for the Blind, proved to be an inspiration to parents and that the food, decorations and program were well received. Elaine Moses and Kate Aldrich have agreed to computerize the responses on the questionnaire for distribution to the Board. Mrs. Hudson then thanked the entire Board for their hours of work and service to make the convention the success that it was.

In discussion of where and when to hold the next convention, Dr. Robinson stated that he feels it should be held off-cycle of large organizations like AER, which meets every other year. That would put NAPVI's next opportunity in 1989. Those present also agreed that a midwestern site, possibly Chicago or St. Louis, would be optimum.

Henry Hedgecock, chairman of the Scholarship Committee, stated that he hopes the first NAPVI scholarships can be awarded at the next national convention.

The question of meetings for 1987 was then raised. The suggestion was made to hold a leadership training meeting

somewhere on the East Coast, following a statement by Board Member Norma Lucas, who felt those in her region especially would benefit by a workshop. After much discussion, the group determined to search out interest in the Philadelphia or Baltimore areas. Dr. Robinson also noted that, in a recent conversation, AER President Kathleen Megivern expressed her support of NAPVI and her hope that parents would feel included in her organization's regional meetings.

Mrs. Moses then added her thanks to all of the assembled Board for their work with the convention. She announced that the Executive Board would meet again, possibly in January in Austin, to discuss re-organization proceedings within the national staff.

The meeting was adjourned.

(Submitted for approval at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors November 4-8, 1987 by Keitha Robinson)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.
JANUARY 16-17, 1987

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired convened at the NAPVI offices in Austin, Texas at 9 a.m. Friday, January 16, 1987. Those present were Executive Committee Members Elaine Moses, Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock, Executive Director Lee Robinson, Keitha Robinson and Denise Bair and Dr. Susan Jay Spungin, associate executive director of the American Foundation for the Blind.

Keitha Robinson read the minutes of the November 9, 1986 Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the first national parent meeting in Arlington, Texas.

Conference Evaluation

Eileen announced that Elaine has spent 80-90 hours putting all of the conference evaluations on computer disk and commended her. Lee said that most of the scores were in the "excellent" range. These comments are the "paycheck" for doing the conference. Eileen said it is an excellent guideline for the next conference. Lee would like all board members to have a copy, as it is a great way to determine NAPVI's direction; a three-year plan should be designed based on the comments. Chicago (mid-USA) is the preferred location for the 1989 national conference. Eileen said the evaluation also gives an indication of where to hold regional meetings. The question dealing with "when" is another good thing to look at, as well as the things conference participants would like to see more of. Eileen suggested that these be sent to the Board immediately, with the recommendation that at least five suggestions for a 3-year plan be submitted by each Board member and officer by May 1. Several professional journals,

Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness and the Hadley School for the Blind Orbit will be featuring news of the convention.

Current projects:

Dr. Kathleen Huebner is spearheading efforts for the JVIB article. Several people need to be named to write a perspective article. Julie Farnum was suggested to share the parent perspective.

Recommendations still out. Each of the four Friday workshop groups were asked to make recommendations for NAPVI; Dr. Huebner's group is the only one which has submitted these. These recommendations should be considered for incorporation in the three-year plan.

Name switching, (listing of conference participants). The cost of mailing this listing first class would be about \$400. Funds available will determine how extensively NAPVI can do this. Those present felt the listing would be a good way to do for the Exhibitors to have another opportunity to contact conference attendees; they probably should receive the registration list whether or not NAPVI sends it to all participants.

Budget. As of today, there are only a few unpaid bills from the Conference, particularly the hotel bill, which Henry is checking carefully.

Three-Year Plan. The Executive Committee spent some time going over the current three-year plan, with the consensus being that NAPVI is still on target for 1985, 1986 and 1987 with just a few flip-flops because of the conference.

Scholarship. Henry will place \$500 for the scholarship fund from any excess money from the conference.



Coming Events

RP Foundation at 15, February, 1987

Blind Children's Center, Medical Symposium in March, 1987

California Transcribers and Educators of the VH, March, 1987

CEC - National Convention, April, 1987

AER - Texas- April, 1987

NAPVI Summer Leadership Seminar, 1987 - (follow-up for conference).

AER - South Dakota, August, 1987

Canadian Conference (Nova Scotia) - October, 1987

February, 1988 - American Foundation for the Blind and Foundation for the Junior Blind Symposium in Los Angeles

Program Chairman Eileen Hudson will be contacting Board members over the next few days with assignments and thoughts concerning each of these meetings as it involves individual Board members. The Executive Committee authorized Henry to make an appropriate donation to the RP Foundation in commemoration of their 15th birthday.

Conference video tapes. Elaine Moses has been working with Linda Beth Litowski of the Texas Commission for the Blind on the editing of Conference video materials. Elaine will provide the parent perspective as they decide what should stay in and what should be deleted. The Commission is doing this free of charge, with the consideration that they receive copies of the materials. In regard to the audio tapes, Elaine chose the 10 listed in the December newsletter as ready, as is. Lee can get a very small number reproduced easily. Probably the best long-range reproduction source is Recordings for the Blind, which has a local office in Austin. This is not an immediate rush, so Lee suggests doing it on an as-needed basis. Henry recommended that all Board members receive a free copy of these tapes.

Eileen has a quantity of approximately 50 tapes which she will donate for taping purposes.

Publications. Parents to the Rescue, The Affiliation Process, and The Library Guide all need to be recopied and Lee suggested printing them in quantities large enough to keep production costs reasonable. In the past, the Robinsons have produced them on their copier--is NAPVI going to job these booklets out or purchase a copier. Lee said the books are needed now in volumes where it is not economical to do it on a copier anymore; Lee said the alternative might be to go to a printer and set up an agreement for a discount and then periodically review that for cost effectiveness. Lee recommended not having an inventory of more than 200 copies of either the Affiliation Process or Parents to the Rescue on hand at any one time. Eileen noted that Parents to the Rescue and The Affiliation Process should not need to be revised. Lee said the Library Guide is a valuable piece as is; it was the result of a library school project and he is unaware of anyone who would take revising it on as a project; he suggested that perhaps one of Dr. Ferrell's students at Columbia might be interested in doing this. The Executive Committee recommended that Robinsons do another 25 copies of the Library Guide to make up a current inventory and that NAPVI job out 200 Parents to the Rescue and 200 Affiliation Process.

National Office Matters.

The management of La Villita Office Building has presented NAPVI with a lease, which is available on a month-to-month basis at a price of 50 cents per square foot, (\$172.50 per month, including utilities).

Discussion: Lee inventoried the present office equipment, which includes several desks and a credenza made available by the current leasing company. In order to remain in operation, so that the

membership files can be updated, a computer must be obtained. A duplicate system to the one used by the Robinsons costs \$1,951, according to the lowest quote Lee was able to obtain from a retail outlet; he was unable to locate a used system. He was able to locate a letter quality printer from another company for \$50 less than the retail outlet is asking. A number of Board members have access to the Appleworks system, which now contains the NAPVI membership records. Denise Bair transferred all of the membership records to Appleworks from an outdated program over the Holidays. Lee has located two (2) legal size 5-drawer filing cabinets for the price of \$75 each and he recommends that those be obtained. Shelving for the office is a matter of convenience; several tables and some folding chairs are needed. Priorities include a computer, letter-quality printer, copier, file cabinet, folding tables. Elaine has donated a typewriter.

The group adjourned for lunch at noon.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The Friday afternoon session began at 1:30 p.m.

The group discussed the conference with Dr. Spungin, particularly with regard to finances and also discussed membership. Lee Robinson said that 273 persons have become 1987 members, a higher figure than this time in 1986. The 1986 membership year ended with 917 members, including approximately 618 parents, 237 associates, 57 agencies and a few miscellaneous members. This is a three-parents-to-one-professional ratio. A discussion ensued about membership costs and dues. Eileen said that dues are probably quite low. The \$5 parent/family membership does not cover the cost of newsletter and mailing. Dr. Spungin also felt the \$3 associate member

cost was extremely low considering the fact that those members receive a quarterly newsletter.

The discussion turned to telephones; the 800 number goes to 459-6672, which is the Robinson house. The 459-6651 number has been taken over by Ms. Susan Lewis, who bought Keitha's Typing. She has a forwarding number on it to her telephone number. Those present agreed that NAPVI needs a new telephone number and authorized Lee to arrange for one.

Personnel. Denise Bair is currently working as office manager, although not yet under contract. Expenditure of the monies has already been approved. She is operating under a verbal agreement with Elaine Moses. Another contract needs to be set up.

The discussion turned to the search for an executive director. Dr. John Crandell of Utah was unable to attend the meeting due to health problems. Lee announced that Dr. Crandell is still interested. Lee said that it may be necessary to resort to a conference call situation in order to interview Dr. Crandell. A time limit, set at April 15, needs to be placed upon Dr. Crandell's agreement.

Also, the Board needs to think of possible alternatives in the executive director search. Lee has agreed to put out some feelers to consultants and to personnel in agencies for the blind around the Austin area. Those present felt that an interim executive director should be hired, as Lee Robinson is joining the Hadley faculty full-time, beginning in February. The Executive Board recommended that Keitha Robinson be acting executive director, as she will be in the Austin area until June.

Elections. Because NAPVI has reached its 500-member goal, it is necessary to elect national officers. The nominating committee,

currently chaired by Diana Cuthbertson, must be notified to prepare a slate of nominees. (See Addenda B for a current committee list.)

Newsletter. Lee and Keitha Robinson have volunteered to continue to help with the newsletter when they move. NAPVI would establish a co-editorship with Mary Lou and Keitha. This will increase NAPVI's newsletter staff as per our three-year plan.

Professional Advisory Board. Function of this committee is two-fold, 1) to provide expertise on finance and advertising, 2) to provide credibility of contacts and track records for fund raising. During discussion, those present agreed that this committee would be volunteer in the strictest sense, each member paying his/her own way to meetings, etc. Guidelines for the PAB were drawn up by Eileen, who is chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee and Dr. Spungin (See Addenda A). They feel that the core group should begin in Austin or vicinity, because such a group would be need to be nurtured by the national office. Such a national PAB committee could be replicated easily by state and local affiliates. The executive committee recommended that the chair of PAB be an ex-officio Board member of NAPVI.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1986

The Saturday session of the NAPVI Executive Committee began at 9 a.m.

1988 Symposium

Dr. Spungin discussed details of the February 3-6, 1988 Symposium in Los Angeles sponsored by AFB and the Foundation for the Junior Blind. Entitled "Focus on Vision Loss: Everybody's Business," the event will be at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA. Approximately 900 persons are expected. Symposium emphasis will be on employment, technology, daily living skills and public education. Contact persons are Robert Walls, executive director, FJB and Sam Negrin, AFB. Registration will be \$100 for symposium tier, \$50 for one day. NAPVI has been designated as one of three affiliate groups which will meet as a part of the conference, the others being members of the Jo Taylor Leadership group and the Low Vision group. Dr. Spungin is coordinating the affiliate groups for the conference. NAPVI has the following 1 1/2 hour sessions for meetings: Thursday, 10:15-12; 2:15-3:45, 4-5:30; (Thursday evening open for social); Friday, 8:30-10; 10:30-12 and 1:15-2:45, 3-4:30. Tuesday or Saturday is completely open and could be utilized by NAPVI.

The FJB has designated its camp as parent lodging for the symposium at very minimal costs; there are 240 spots for parents. Childcare staff will be provided during the day. It's possible that NAPVI would prefer to have a social at the camp for parents during that time. Transportation to the symposium will be provided free of charge. Lee suggested that more parents might be able to come on a weekend than mid-week. Eileen suggested that NAPVI provide a funding proposal for those members interested in attending to take to local

Lions and other groups so that they can obtain these funds before budgets are drawn up.

Discussion followed about affiliation procedures. Dr. Spungin suggested that the next newsletter contain an article on affiliation procedures, perhaps mentioning the newest affiliates.

Fund raising was the next discussion point. Ida Ruth Plymale, CFRE fund raising certified, has made a proposal to NAPVI. (See Addenda C.)

Discussion ensued about NAPVI doing much of its own fund raising, utilizing the PAB. Henry Hedgecock suggested that, as a part of the long-range funding plan, the first step should be to establish the PAB and then work with PAB to develop a long-range plan. Those present felt that now is the best time to send out a one-time funding appeal, utilizing the success generated by the conference. Dr. Spungin will send labels from the AFB directory so that NAPVI can send out a funding appeal.

Relationship between AFB and NAPVI. Dr. Spungin said that perhaps the NAPVI board should give an indication of the level of funding needed by NAPVI in the future. She suggested the Board may want to ask for a one-time transitional grant for an additional amount over and above the annual fiscal cost to defray costs of purchasing office equipment. NAPVI will apply for a \$4,500 transitional grant. Dr. Spungin attended the Executive Board Meeting in the place of Dr. Alana Zambone, who is NAPVI liaison at AFB. Dr. Zambone had a prior commitment and sent her regrets at not being able to attend. Dr. Spungin also brought the best wishes of Executive Director William F. Gallagher, who both attended and enjoyed the NAPVI conference in November.

Discussion ensued about upping the "Associate" membership above the \$3. It was also suggested that the statement "According to the Consumer Information Act, dues to NAPVI will be reviewed every three years" be added. The scale would be: \$10 - parent/family; \$25 - community group/agency; \$15 - associate. The Executive Committee recommended a bylaws change to say that the dues are set by the board and reviewed every three years, to reflect items within the three-year plan.

Early Childhood Initiative

Dr. Spungin also referred to Dr. Zambone's materials concerning the early childhood initiatives (Sen. Weicker's bill), which recommend how parents may impact the current P.L. 99-457 regulation writings to make them reflective of the needs of the visually handicapped. These regs will be out at the end of January and Dr. Zambone has provided suggestions as to what parents may do in order to change them. Lee Robinson said he greatly appreciates receiving these and knows that they will be most helpful to parents. (See Addenda D). Dr. Zambone has been closely monitoring the P.L. 94-142 discretionary funding through the Department of Special Education. Lee noted that one of the hopes of the summer seminar is that participants get a hands-on working knowledge of P.L. 94-142, Section 504 and P.L. 99-457. Dr. Spungin particularly noted that parents need to insist that the regs state that any child with a visual impairment needs special education intervention, not just those who are developmentally delayed.

The group adjourned for lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 17, 1987

The Saturday afternoon session began at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Eileen Hudson presented Col. Mark T. Muller (Ret) with a plaque in appreciation for his volunteer service in the NAPVI office.

SUMMER LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR

After some discussion, the Executive Committee recommended titling the Summer Leadership Training Seminar "CATCH THE VISION: A HANDS-ON LEADERSHIP AND ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR PARENTS" with a descriptive paragraph directly below stating seminar objectives.

The seminar will be comprised of a Friday evening Keynote session and get-acquainted, all day Saturday sessions, a media event Saturday evening and a half-day Sunday session, with an early close to catch flights. Possible sites for the seminar include Philadelphia, first choice and Baltimore, second choice. Optimum dates for the seminar would be August 7/8, July 30-31 or August 14-15. Region II representative Norma Lucas will be seminar coordinator. Dr. Zambone will be asked to search out possible hotel sites, in relation to rates, available shuttle, etc. See Addenda B for Program Committee Members.

Registration, which will be limited to 100-150, will be conducted on a first come, first served basis, with NAPVI members having a lower fee than non-NAPVI members.

Tentative program plans for Saturday call for three concurrent sessions (everyone will be able to attend all sessions during the course of the day).

Session I Legislative: P.L. 94-142, P.L. 99-457, Section 504, how parents may impact the political system, etc.

Session II Group Dynamics: the life of an organization, establishing a group, overcoming negatives (low attendance, speaker unavailability, etc), keeping the group active.

Session III Resources: Agencies that serve the blind, accreditation, service delivery systems, etc.

The Sunday session is to include a teen panel as a part of the wrap-up.

Seminar speakers should understand that parent interaction is paramount and that a hands-on rather than lecture session is desired i.e. actually writing up an I.E.P., small group sessions or a scenario workshop where participants are asked to arbitrarily assume the parent, teacher, administrator, school board member or child's role so participants will know provisions of each of the three laws and how they work.

Three-Year Plan

The new three-year plan should be in effect September 1. The executive director must pull together the board's objectives and activities, particularly those activities not completed from the previous three-year plan (85-87) and incorporate them into a new plan for 1988-90. That document should be given to the Board about September 1 for approval at the fall board meeting.

The Board in the next few weeks should

- 1) review the previous three-year plan, pulling out objectives and activities they want to see completed;
- 2) Review the evaluations of the national conference, including the recommendations from the four workshops on Friday (Ferrell, Hammer, Miller) and any additional ideas applying to their

regions or any special projects initiated (must be returned to central office by May 1).

Outgoing Executive Director Lee Robinson expressed his feeling that Seattle, Portland and Florida areas would be optimum sites for area conferences in 1988. He also said that New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Michigan and two groups in Florida are possible affiliates.

The meeting adjourned for the day.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 1987

Elaine Moses announced that she will be heavily involved in a project at work during the next several months and that Eileen Hudson has agreed to take on many of Elaine's administrative duties. She asks that the Board get in touch with Eileen if at all possible when they have questions or concerns.

The Executive Committee recommends that NAPVI contract out the printing of our publications and keep current of competitive prices.

The Executive Committee recommends that NAPVI purchase the following office equipment: Apple IIe computer/printer, copier, telephone, table and chairs.

The Executive Committee recommends that the dues be raised in the following ways: family membership, \$10; associate membership, \$15; agency membership, \$25, beginning in the membership year, 1988. It is recommended by the Executive Committee that the bylaws be changed on page 14, article 4, section 2 to reflect that the Board has authority to set dues and will review dues structure on a periodic basis.

AWARENESS ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

The Executive Committee recommends that two to three pages at the back of AWARENESS be labeled as advertising, with a non endorsement statement; that the proportion of advertising to printed matter comply with postal regulations; that ad pricing be based on a quarter-page format; that no discounts be given for advertising in all four issues; that no distinction should be made between non-profit or for-profit advertising. Advertising should begin with the Third Quarter, 1987 newsletter, unless it is feasible to begin earlier. Goal of paid advertisement is to get \$1,000 worth of advertising per issue.

The Executive Committee recommends the following proposed budget
for 1988:

Income:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------|
| AFB | \$30,000 | |
| Dues | 8,800 | |
| Publications | 3,000 | |
| Advertisement | 2,000 | |
| Contributions | 1,500 | |
| Postage | 100 | |
| Conference | 3,500 | |
| | <u>48,900</u> | Income |

Expenditures:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Rent | 2,100 |
| Secretary | 7,560 |
| Newsletter | 4,600 |
| Director | 6,000 |
| Board Meeting | 5,000 |
| Summer Conference | 3,500 |
| Publications | 4,000 |
| Postage/Central Off. | 2,800 |
| Postage/Rest of Bd. | 330 |
| Office Supplies | 500 |
| Telephone/Cent. Off. | 2,500 |
| Telephone/ All Board | 600 |
| Executive Board Mtg. | 3,000 |
| Fund Raising | 4,500 |
| Total: | <u>46,690</u> |

The meeting adjourned.



ADDENDUM A

PRELIMINARY GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

(PAB Chairman Eileen Hudson and Dr. Susan Spungin met and laid out the following guidelines)

Purposes of PAB: Fund Raising
Technical Expertise for National Office
Public Relations for NAPVI

Number of Participants: 12-15, Austin and vicinity

Chair of PAB will be critical

Community leaders and socially and financially well-connected business persons with a track record of support for human service causes.
Professions which could be representative of the above might be:

- Ophthalmologist - General Pediatric
- Lawyers (2)
- Banker (2)
- Corporate Vice Presidents
- Professional Teacher of Vision Training Program
- Major political leader
- Former executive director of NAPVI
- Celebrity
- Pediatrician
- Well-known recognized parent
- Well-known socially connected women volunteers, i.e. use Kay McKnight for contacts
- Lucy Johnson Turpin, (Vision Volunteers)
- Delta Gamma

Chair of PAB will be an ex-officio member of the Board.

ADDENDUM B
LIST OF COMMITTEES

Technnical Advisory Committee

Eileen Hudson, Chair
Jeanie Flack
Judi Stotland
Alana Zambone

Grandparents

(Inactive)
Jacqueline Carroll
Mary Lou Wilkinson

Affiliation

Jeanie Flack, Chair
Eileen Hudson
Linda Katzkee
Judi Stotland (Alternate)

List of Lists

Elaine Moses, Chair
Kay McKnight
Dr. Zambone

Award

Fay Corey (Chair)
Jeanie Flack

Newsletter

Mary Lou Wilkinson
Keitha Robinson
Lee Robinson

Funding

Henry Hedgecock (Chair)
Gail Granados
Eileen Hudson

Membership

Norma Lucas
Fay Corey
Joan Johnson

Nominating

Diana Cuthbertson
Fay Corey
Judi Stotland

Program

Eileen Hudson, Chair
Henry Hedgecock
Gale Hedgecock
Diana Cuthbertson
Gail Granados

Research and Review

Fay Corey
Jeanie Flack
Gale Hedgecock

Resolution and Policy

Kate Aldrich
Judi Stotland
Elaine Moses
Alana Zambone

Scholarship

Henry Hedgecock, Chair
Diana Cuthbertson
Norma Lucas
Eileen Hudson

Ad Hoc (Guidelines)

Disbanded as of
11/9/86

Publicity

Jacqueline Carroll

Dear Parent Group Leader:

NAPVI is planning a Leadership Training Workshop for you next summer. In order to make it a special time for you, we're asking your help in suggesting speakers for us. Following is a listing of the sessions we have considered, please use the enclosed self-addressed, stamped return envelope to make us aware of outstanding speakers we could draw into our seminar. We must have these back by **February 15**. If you fail to make this deadline, please use our toll-free number.

Keynote:

Services Available:

Legislative:

Organization Dynamics:

Other Suggestions:

In the next month, we will be notifying you of the exact location and times.

Sincerely,

Eileen Hudson
NAPVI Program Chairman

"I feel a part of a national family with a purpose" -- join NAPVI!
Become a member of a national family of a purpose.

"Join NAPVI - Become a part of a national family with purpose!"

NAPVI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 16-18, 1986
AUSTIN, TEXAS

TO DO LIST

Elaine: Will inquire about furniture donation from ESC to NAPVI.

Lee: Send Kathy Huebner the letter from Julie Farnum after you call KH first.

Lee: Run off the evaluations and distribute to Board.

Mary Lou: Elaine spent 80-90 hours of her own time inputting and going through the evaluations. Lee suggests we have a article on the evaluations in the next newsletter.

Entire Board: Read through the conference evaluations. Then compile a list of at least 5 items that should be targeted in our next 3-year plan. Your target items are due into the national office by May 1. They will then be worked by the executive director into a new 3-year plan.

Lee: Talk with editors of some of the national professional trade publications to see what can be done to feature the NAPVI conference in their upcoming editions.

Keitha: Write Thank You notes to Bob Patton and Sherry McGee for the tremendous photography work. Also to Pat Westbrook and the other Texas Commission staff for their help in videotaping the conference.

Lee: Get in touch with the person at UT/Arlington and see what should be done about the CEU's.

Lee: Contact Dr. Ferrell, Tom Miller and Ed Hammer about recommendations they have from the Friday sessions of the Conference.

Lee: Update the conference registration list so that the name switching can be done.

Henry: Will place \$500 into the NAPVI scholarship funds from the conference when this can be done.

Eileen: Contact Kate Aldrich about the CTEVH conference in March and with details about the January, 1988 Symposium in L.A. sponsored by AFB and FJB and the Blind Children's Center Symposium in March.

Eileen: Contact Norma about the Leadership Conference this summer.

Lee: Arrange with Dr. Zambone about distributing NAPVI materials at the AFB booth at CEC in April.

Denise: Mail these materials to Dr. Zambone.

Eileen: Talk with Kay McKnight about South Dakota AER conference.

Entire Board: Henry Hedgecock has suggested that the NAPVI BOARD needs to be more involved on a community and state level with Lions Clubs. Introduce yourselves to them and offer to speak at one of their meetings. Let every Lion you know be aware of NAPVI!

Henry: Will make a small donation to the RP Foundation in order to show support to their upcoming anniversary.

Elaine: Set up a display and table to distribute NAPVI materials at the Texas AER in San Antonio in April.

Lee: Send Henry Hedgecock information about the Nova Scotia Conference in October, so that if money is available she will be about to attend. Gail Granados is an alternate.

Eileen: Box up and send the donated tapes to the NAPVI office.

Lee: Check on tape duplication at Recordings for the Blind.

Denise: Fill the tape orders that have come in so far.

Lee: Order 200 Parents to the Rescue and 200 affiliation processes from a printer. On your own copier, do up 25 Library Guides.

Lee: Check with Dr. Kay Ferrell about the possibility of one of her doc students doing an update on the Library Guide for us.

Denise: Fill the orders on the affiliation processes from the Leadership Breakfast.

Lee: Arrange for a new NAPVI telephone number (Completed - 512/323-5710)

Lee: Call Dr. Crandell and Virginia Bishop about possibilities in taking over the NAPVI executive directorship.

Dr. Spungin: Send rate chart for JVIB to Lee.

Eileen: Distribute guidelines for Professional Advisory Board.

Mary Lou: Run an article in the next AWARENESS on affiliation, mentioning the newest affiliates and outlining the processes required for affiliation.

Lee: Prior to February 1, write a comprehensive summary of suggestions as to how NAPVI might do its own fund raising, utilizing the Professional Advisory Board and other ideas.

Dr. Spungin: Will send NAPVI the labels from agencies listed in the AFB directory for a mailing.

Keitha & Denise: Send out a one-time funding appeal.

Keitha & Denise: Draft and send out the renewal notices.

Lee: Produce the guidelines for paid advertising and distribute to Mary Lou, along with instructions for dissemination to the National Office. He will contact APH and the exhibitors.

Eileen: Contact Dr. Zambone to search out a possible location, preferably in Philadelphia for the summer leadership meeting, with regard to cost of hotel, date, etc.

Keitha: Send out letter requesting best speakers to heads of parent groups throughout U.S. Mail out on Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Elaine: Will work with the Commission on the editing of the videotaping.

Lee: Is going to write a proposal for \$30,000 instead of \$28,000 to AFB.

Lee: Letters to affiliates announcing the dues change and announcing their input...as a consequence of this we need to change our brochure to reach it.

Office: Send copies of "positive" letters from Kathy Huebner, Dr. Spungin, Dr. Zambone, etc.

Eileen: Contact the Technical Advisory Committee and draw up a list of persons to be on the Board and professionals throughout the nation and place names with these professional to be on the Professional Advisory Board.

Mary Lou: Announcement should be made in the First and Second, 1987 newsletter of the new advertising section. Please make note of the deaths of Richard Evenson, executive director (?) of the National Library Service and Harold Krentz, author of "To Race the Wind." Announcement of election of officers, first quarter, 1987; bios of slate, second quarter, 1987.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - MAY 15-16, 1987 - AUSTIN, TEXAS

MINUTES

The Executive Committee of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired convened at the NAPVI offices in Austin, Texas at 9 a.m., Friday, May 15, 1987. Those present were Executive Committee Members Eileen Hudson, Henry Hedgecock and Judi Stotland; Acting Executive Director Keitha Robinson and Office Secretary Denise Bair.

Discussion began with a run-down from Keitha Robinson on legislative matters which have come through the office recently, some of which have required a response of some sort from the executive director. Specifically, the group discussed the pending plans of the Department of Education to have a 90-day comment period on P.L. 99-457, the early childhood amendments to the Education of All Handicapped Children's Act. Eileen Hudson asked Judi Stotland to submit articles for AWARENESS on legislative topics.

The next discussion centered on arrangements in progress for the Leadership Training Seminar at Valley Forge August 7-9. Mrs. Hudson and Mr. Hedgecock were both present at the March meeting of the Program Committee in New York and reported on decisions made at that time. Mrs. Robinson noted that all speaker contracts have been signed and returned to the office.

The group spent a brief time discussing the teen panel, particularly with regard to alternates if those selected are unable to attend. The other unfilled position in the program is that of a speaker for the organization/group dynamics session being led by Gail Granados.

Other discussion involved items which need to be ordered by the office for the seminar, including name tags, more T-shirts, ribbons for the name tags and several other items. Mrs. Robinson stated that enough of all of these items will be ordered to see NAPVI through the 1989 Conference. NAPVI publications were also inventoried and the office was authorized to re-order whatever stock was running low. The group also discussed prices set on such items as T-shirts and authorized raising the T-shirt price to \$10 for adults and \$8 for children.

In related matters, the Executive Committee discussed and then authorized the milage allotment for seminars such as Valley Forge to be set at \$.19 per mile. The Committee also established a policy regarding scholarships for those desiring to attend NAPVI conventions or seminars. Scholarships should only be granted to attend national conferences and participants of regional or local seminars should be encouraged to fund-raise locally. Such scholarships are to be approved by the President and Treasurer of NAPVI, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director.

The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the printed agenda for the Valley Forge Seminar with amendments in several areas.

Awards Committee Member Judi Stotland recommended that Dr. Mae Davidow, who is to be the keynote speaker at the Valley Forge Seminar, receive the Outstanding Contribution Award for 1987. Henry Hedgecock moved that such an action be taken and the matter was seconded by Eileen Hudson.

Next the Executive Committee discussed preparations for NAPVI's 1988 seminar, to be held in conjunction with the American Foundation for the Blind, Foundation for the Blind Symposium in Los Angeles in February, 1988.

Mrs. Hudson noted that there are still many unanswered questions about the event which should be discussed with Dr. Alana Zambone as soon as possible. These include: Who will pay for NAPVI's speakers? Do our parent participants need to pay the \$100 registration fee for the symposium? May parents simply attend the NAPVI functions at a reduced rate and not pay the \$100? What is the number of meeting rooms which will be available to NAPVI? What is the seating capacity of these rooms? Mrs. Hudson will contact Dr. Zambone and report back to the Board.

The group also discussed the agenda for the Los Angeles Seminar. Judi Stotland was able to add a great deal of input on excellent speakers in her area. Mrs. Stotland will contact several of these as to their availability and willingness to

present at the NAPVI Seminar. Mrs. Stotland said that she feels that it is particularly important to involve Mr. Robert Acosta of the California Council of the Blind in the employment panel and to begin a working dialogue with his group. Mrs. Hudson asked Judi Stotland to make these contacts for the Program Committee.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:50 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 15

The Friday afternoon session began at 2:20 p.m.

First topic of discussion was the 1989 national convention. The Executive Board agreed that, as Chicago was the choice of many participants at the Arlington Convention, it should be designated as the site, especially in view of the fact that it has an easy access airport and an active statewide affiliate chapter of NAPVI. As a result, the November, 1987 annual meeting will be held at the designated hotel. Eileen Hudson, Lee and Keitha Robinson and Mary Zabelski, president of the Illinois Parent Group, are serving on the site selection committee.

It has been suggested that the best date for the 1989 convention would be the third or fourth week of June, 1989.

The Executive Board also discussed ideas for fund raising. Mrs. Stotland proposed that signed scripts from entertainers be auctioned, along with other personal items of the famous. Possible fund raising options for the Los Angeles Seminar were also discussed.

Turning to matters relating to the operation of the NAPVI office, the Executive Board authorized Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Bair to obtain insurance for the office equipment recently purchased by NAPVI through an interim grant from the American Foundation for the Blind. An inventory sheet of those items is attached to these minutes.

The Executive Board also authorized the re-printing of the NAPVI membership brochure to reflect the new dues change. Brochures will be printed on yellow stock.

The group also discussed the fact that many grandparents are beginning to join NAPVI, although no such membership designation exists. Mr. Hedgecock has determined that these individuals should be considered class "A", parent-family members.

Mrs. Robinson noted that NAPVI now has several quarter-page advertisements which it could run in other organization's program booklets and in such trade publications as the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness and The AEVH Journal. She noted that an ad was recently submitted for the NOAH programs to be used at their national convention next July in Connecticut.

The Executive Board next discussed the need for Board member orientation, noting that this year we will again have two new individuals present for the first time. In discussing ways to more effectively train board members in their duties, those present felt that it might be more efficient for the Executive Board to meet a day prior to the regular meeting to present many

of the detail items, so that a time could be set aside for Board training during the Friday, Saturday and Sunday time periods.

Eileen Hudson called for typed committee reports from each of the NAPVI committees prior to the November Board meeting as well. Mrs. Stotland observed that much of the new board member training could be handled by newer board members who remember what it was like to be a new member. Also, Lee Robinson will be asked to write a formal job description for board members, such as the one he has already produced for the executive director.

Quarterly reports was the next topic of discussion. Eileen Hudson stressed that these need to be submitted to the NAPVI office each quarter in typed, finished form. The NAPVI secretary will be responsible for assembling all board reports and sending them to the full board.

The NAPVI secretary is responsible for all Board minutes. Support from office personnel in regard to a computer generated to-do list for Board participants to take home with them is extremely beneficial, as is a taped record of proceedings which the secretary must use in order to refer back to specific action taken during discussions. Those attending NAPVI meetings were urged to study all the minutes and the material they carry away from meetings for accuracy and notify the secretary of the discrepancy; any changes, if necessary, to the minutes, should be made under the direction of the secretary and the minutes circulated in a timely manner.

In a separate matter regarding personnel procedure, Office Manager Denise Bair requested that NAPVI pay its share of her self-employment/social security tax. The Executive Committee authorized payment of this directly to her in quarterly installments.

Before moving on to other matters, the Board approved the express written language of the paragraph which the entire Board has authorized to be added to the bylaws reflecting the Board's ability to periodically review and raise NAPVI dues. (See Attachment #___).

Those present then discussed an article written by Ed Bloom, director of student life, elementary department, Texas School for the Blind, regarding one of the sessions of the Arlington Conference and submitted for publication in the AEVH Digest. In the article Mr. Bloom referred to certain statements made in the context of Mrs. Julie Farnum's talk and he also interpreted low attendance at the residential school session to indicate a general lack of support for such programs among conference participants. Mrs. Robinson noted that all of Mr. Bloom's remarks were clearly set forth as commentary and that he was entitled to his opinion. The editor of the AEVH Digest has asked Mrs. Farnum to rebut Mr. Bloom's remarks. Mrs. Hudson said that she believes a letter should be written standing behind our speaker and her right to say whatever she feels; clearly stipulating that such remarks are the speakers' and do not

reflect NAPVI policy. A letter was drafted by Judi Stotland to the editor of the Digest. (See Attachment __).

Mrs. Robinson introduced a copy of a previously published work, Mainstreaming the Visually Impaired, which is now out of print. Dr. Lee Robinson is currently negotiating with the authors in order that NAPVI might re-publish the book. A copy of the book will be circulated among the Research and Review Committee.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1987

The Saturday session of the Executive Committee convened at 9 a.m. Joining the Board were Dr. John Crandell, professor of educational psychology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah and Dr. Lee Robinson, former executive director of NAPVI.

Eileen Hudson officially welcomed Dr. Crandell and interviewed him with regard to the NAPVI executive directorship. Dr. Crandell's biographical data is attached.

Dr. Crandell discussed three potential areas of NAPVI growth: (1) establishment of a firm financial base; (2) improvement of advocacy skills among the NAPVI membership; (3) offering support and encouragement in the research area.

Dr. Crandell, who is retiring in September from BYU, stated that under the terms of his disability, he will not be able to collect a salary. However, he has the following needs which could be provided by NAPVI: telephone services up to \$75 per month; a leased vehicle; medical health insurance, term life insurance and a one-time moving expense allotment. Eileen Hudson

and Henry Hedgecock will be working closely with Dr. Crandell in regard to establishing compensation for his services.

At the conclusion of the interview, the group formulated a new three-year plan for the Fiscal Years 1988, 1989 and 1990. (See attached). The plan must be circulated around the Board and the entire Board will vote on inception of the plan in November.

Mrs. Stotland suggested beginning a dialogue with Technical Assistance for the Severely Handicapped (T.A.S.H.), which currently is spearheading efforts to undermine the role of residential schools in the Congress. She has agreed to meet with Richard Rosenberg about this matter and also to bring to the November Board Meeting a resolution regarding "Least Restrictive Environment."

The Executive Committee adjourned for lunch at 1:45 p.m.

The afternoon session of the Board began at 3:45 p.m.

The Technical Advisory Board was discussed.

After more modifications to the three-year plan, the group adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Checking Account

| | Expenses | Reciepts | Balance |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | | | \$ 6,598.89 |
| Booths | 4,039.18 | 6,782.25 | 2,743.07 |
| Advertisement | 92.99 | 3,630.00 | 3,537.01 |
| Raffle | 13.00 | 967.00 | 954.00 |
| Child Name | -0- | 140.00 | 140.00 |
| Contributions | 96.33 | 30,357.00 | 30,260.67 |
| Savings Account | | | |
| CD & Bonds | 4,200.00 | 6,000.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Annual Dues | 67.00 | 5,954.46 | 5,887.46 |
| Seminar | 377.82 | 1,890.00 | 1,512.18 |
| College Credit | 75.00 | 75.00 | -0- |
| Conference | 36,840.56 | 31,908.15 | (4,932.41) |
| Publications | 9,521.41 | 3,854.50 | (5,666.91) |
| Travel | 12,676.29 | 412.00 | (12,264.29) |
| Postages | 4,058.48 | 111.00 | (3,947.48) |
| Bank Charges | 17.56 | 15.00 | (2.56) |
| Audio Tapes | 117.50 | 78.00 | (39.50) |
| Office Equipment | 4,708.42 | 4,000.00 | (708.42) |
| Souvenirs | 5,539.56 | 1,738.50 | (3,801.06) |
| Supplies | 737.65 | -0- | (737.65) |
| Rent | 2,527.26 | -0- | (2,527.26) |
| Misc. | 397.95 | -0- | (397.95) |
| Video Tapes | 239.20 | -0- | (239.20) |
| Scholarship | 1,000.00 | -0- | (1,000.00) |
| Outside Serv. | 9,521.00 | -0- | (9,521.00) |
| Phone | 3,461.69 | -0- | (3,461.69) |
| | 100,325.85 | 97,912.86 | |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | | 4,185.90 |

Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Savings Account and Certificate of Deposit and Bonds

| | Savings | CD | Bonds | Total |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | 3,294.61 | 7,000.00 | | 10,294.61 |
| Withdrawals | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | | (6,000.00) |
| Deposit from checking | 3,700.00 | | | 3,700.00 |
| Bond | | | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Interest | 384.65 | | | 384.65 |
| | 4,379.26 | 4,000.00 | 500.00 | |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | | | 8,879.26 |

Scholarship

Total

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | | -0- |
| Buy from Checking | Bond | Total |
| | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | 1,000.00 |

Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 July '87 - 30 Sept. '87

Checking Account

| | Expenses | Reciepts | Balance |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 July '87 | | | \$ 3,504.45 |
| Contributions | | 7,812.00 | 7,812.00 |
| Annual Dues | | 1,559.20 | 1,559.20 |
| Booths | 250.00 | 402.25 | 152.25 |
| Advertisement | | 90.00 | 90.00 |
| Audio Tapes | 65.00 | 24.00 | (41.00) |
| Souvenirs | 30.93 | 196.00 | 165.07 |
| Seminar | 322.82 | 1,530.00 | 1,207.18 |
| Postages | 1,372.55 | 68.25 | (1,304.30) |
| Travel | 5,327.37 | 200.00 | (5,127.37) |
| Publications | 1,116.18 | 471.00 | (645.18) |
| Misc. | 22.52 | | (22.52) |
| Rent | 517.20 | | (517.50) |
| Supplies | 202.86 | | (202.86) |
| Office Equip. | 606.12 | | (606.12) |
| Savings | 1,000.00 | | (1,000.00) |
| Phone | 1,170.70 | | 1,170.70 |
| Outside Serv. | 2,790.00 | | (2,790.00) |
| | 14,794.55 | 12,352.70 | (2,441.85) |
| Ending Balance 30 Sept. '87 | | | 1,062.60 |

Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 July '87 - 30 Sept. '87

Savings Account, Scholarship Bonds, Bonds and Certificate of
Deposits

| | Savings | CD | Schol/Bonds | Bonds | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|--------|----------|
| Beginning Balance 1 July '87 | 3,746.83 | 4,000.00 | 1,000.00 | -0- | 8,746.83 |
| Interest | 132.43 | | | | 8,879.26 |
| Deposit from checking | 500.00 | | | | 9,379.26 |
| Buy from checking | | | | 500.00 | 9,879.26 |
| Ending Balance 30 Sept. '87 | 4,379.26 | 4,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 500.00 | 9,879.26 |

Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

ANNUAL MEETING

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 5-8, 1987

Thursday, November 5, the NAPVI annual Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Acting President Eileen Hudson. Those present included Judith Stotland, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, treasurer; Board members Gail Granados, Kate Aldrich, Tom Auletta, Joan Johnson, Chris Cook, AFB Liaison to the NAPVI Board Alana Zambone, Office Manager Denise Bair and Administrative Aide Keitha Robinson.

During the Thursday session Kate Aldrich and Gail Granados conducted training for new board members. Items covered included: the Buddy-For-A-Year Program, a brief history of NAPVI, job descriptions for office personnel and board, board Notebooks, office procedures, and run-down of board descriptions.

Other business included a point-by-point run-through of several new documents prepared for the Board under the direction of Executive Director Dr. John Crandell, who was unable to attend the Board meeting due to health reasons. These included the Fiscal 1988-1991 (Three Year) Plan; the NAPVI Policy Book and the NAPVI Work Book, which includes job descriptions and standing committee function sheets. During the course of the three-day Board meeting all three were corrected and approved by the Board of Directors.

Thursday afternoon the various standing committees met in sessions in order to assess goals in relation to the three-year plan and to chart a short-term course of action for the coming months.

The Friday morning session of the NAPVI Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. with Acting President Eileen Hudson conducting. Joining the group was Susan Fraser-Perrotta, Kay McKnight, Norma Lucas and Elaine Moses.

Dr. Alana Zambone announced that AFB has granted NAPVI \$10,000 for scholarships to parents to attend the AFB/FJB Symposium in Los Angeles in February. According to Dr. Zambone, AFB will send \$5,000 now and \$5,000 as NAPVI needs it.

The Program Committee drew up the following guidelines for the monies: All scholarships will be in the \$50 to \$250 range and must be applied for through the regional representatives of the NAPVI Board. All applicants must: be willing to stay at the Foundation for the Junior Blind Camp at Malibu, be a member of NAPVI; must be a parent or guardian of a visually impaired child and must present a list of anticipated expenses to their regional NAPVI representative. Those awarded scholarships who do not attend the symposium for any reason will be responsible to refund all monies to NAPVI.

The Board discussed additional ways to make the transition onto the Board more comfortable for first-term Board members, including a training manual which would include Affiliation Process materials; placing a checklist of items at the beginning

of the large board notebooks they receive from the national office; assigning a training officer for new board members; improving communications between regional representatives and such annual Board meeting considerations as having a sign-in sheet at the registration desk listing the meeting rooms and rooms of other Board members and receiving a timely notification of length and times of terms.

The Saturday session of the NAPVI Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Acting President Eileen Hudson. Joining the group was Diana Cuthbertson.

The Program Committee reported recommendations of its meeting regarding the 1989 Convention. Chairman Gail Granados stated that the date of September 28-October 1 (or the weekend before or after) was the Committee's top preference, with Chicago, (accessibility by air, existence of an organized statewide parent group, feedback from surveys) as first choice, then Nashville, St. Louis or Louisville.

After much discussion, the theme for '89 was decided, being "Expanding the Vision: Ourselves, Our Children, Our Friends."

Mrs. Granados is compiling a list of speakers and topics.

Conference Coordinators, Ltd. will conduct registration, probably at a rate of \$8 per person or \$4 for couple built into registration fees. The Executive Board/Program Committee will meet with CCL in February in Los Angeles.

Discussion centered on extending the membership year to 16 months. Mr. Hedgecock feels that many parents who renew are

expecting to be members for the next year when they pay them in September. Mr. Hedgecock moved to table the discussion on membership year and dues policy until the next annual Board meeting. Seconded by Kate Aldrich <This is an agenda item for the 1988 annual board meeting.>

All contracts negotiated by NAPVI should be filed in the office. The executive committee shall receive copies of all contracts.

Mr. Hedgecock reported on membership: 1150 members, including 744 parents; 75 group/agencies, 15 supporting, 325 associates. Foreign members are found in Bermuda (one), England (two) and Canada (four).

Fund Raising Committee Chairman Henry Hedgecock reported for his Committee, which looked toward national convention funding, an increased membership appeal; establishment of endowment and scholarship funds. Projects which will begin in 1988 include corporate giving (re-approach Chrysler, McDonalds, Dr. Don Hubbs). The committee will seek grants for transition money for parent training and workshops. Diana Cuthbertson has agreed to work with Dr. Crandell on grant writing. Susan Fraser-Perrotta has introduced a T-Shirt campaign, with marketing to begin with a survey involving regional representatives assessing how much respondents would pay for t-shirts and what color t-shirts (purple, pink). She has suggested a contest between regions so that members may elect the sayings they prefer on their t-shirts. Some winner prize options might include partially paying a

winner's way to the National Convention; giving affiliate groups a free number of t-shirts or the affiliates a \$1 discount on the t-shirt. Groups would be able to make large orders. NAPVI must plan so it can pre-order but not stock-pile T-shirts. Board member Kay McKnight has a relative who owns a t-shirt shop. (See Addendas #3 and 4, page ____) Tabled.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Criteria

Two scholarships shall be awarded (per year, as appropriate), one to a visually impaired person and one to an individual entering the vision field.

Criteria For A Student

The selected individual must be visually impaired.

The selected individual must show acceptance or continued enrollment in an institute of higher education, college or vocational training.

The selected individual must have an acceptable grade point average.

The selected individual must be part of a family the parents of which belong to NAPVI.

The selected individual must be an all-around student with a broad range of interests.

The selected individual must furnish two (2) letters of reference from non-family members.

Selection will be based on financial need (based on parent income and number of dependents in family).

Criteria for a Professional

The selected individual must be a member of NAPVI.

The selected individual will be a professional in the field of vision or an individual preparing to study to become a professional in the field of vision.

The selected individual will show acceptance in an ongoing program of vision, or orientation and mobility.

The selected individual must demonstrate financial need.

The selected individual must have an acceptable grade point average.

Procedures and Deadlines

Applicants will submit a personal data sheet and arrange for the submission of two (2) letters of recommendation from non-family members.

Applications must be submitted by March 1 of any given year to Scholarship Chairman, NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. A selection will be made by May 1 of the same year. The check will be made payable to the institution rather than the individual.

The first scholarship will be awarded at the national convention in 1989 and delivered in the Spring of 1990.

Kate Aldrich proposed a third scholarship category, which would be awarded to a visually impaired child who does not excel but who has other needs (such as the multihandicapped). Several board members pledged seed money for this. Mrs. Aldrich suggested that such a scholarship fund be established with variable criteria to assist the MH visually impaired child to participate in programs that meet individual needs. Such programs could include private clinics, summer camps, daily living skill programs, etc. Scholarship money might also be used for transportation as well as tuition; may be partial or full. Guidelines will be drawn up by the Scholarship Committee and the money will be awarded after a \$500 goal is reached.

Mrs. Stotland proposed the establishment of a fourth scholarship fund for the gifted visually impaired child, as well.

In a report concerning the newly formed Early Intervention Committee Chairman Chris Cook announced that the primary short-term purpose will be to inform parents of their rights under 99-457, with other activities to include writing letters to governors' offices in order to compile a list of lead agencies, writing that lead agency in order to ask what they plan to do for visually impaired in the 0-2 category and in the 3-5 preschool category. That information will be compiled, with the help of the Resource Lists Committee, into an evaluation report as to whether vision is targeted adequately in each state.

Joan Johnson of the Research and Review Committee reported on progress on the Take Charge! revisions, status of the Eye Book, printing of Mainstreaming.

Norma Lucas, chair of the Membership Committee, said that her committee feels that neonatal units should be targeted to receive NAPVI material. She suggested that a "Number One Affiliate Award" be given at NAPVI's biennial meeting. Her committee also suggests encouraging groups to become state affiliates.

Nominations Committee Chair Diana Cuthbertson submitted a new elections rotation schedule, noting that the rotation would be a little different after the first few times. Mrs. Cuthbertson also noted that the next elections will occur in regions 2 and 4, underscoring the importance of present Board members deciding quickly if they will re-run; also recommendations of other interested candidates needs to be made as soon as possible. The Nominations Committee, which also includes Susan Fraser-Perrotta, drew up a draft of a new elections packet.

CHARGE FOR NEW OFFICERS

Dr. Alana Zambone presented a charge to new officers who took office officially at the Saturday morning Board meeting. She presented plaques for service to Elaine Moses, immediate past president and Mrs. Stotland, retiring secretary. Taking office are Eileen Hudson, president; Gail Granados, vice president; Jeanie Flack, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, treasurer.

IN VOTE ACTION

The Executive Committee recommended that the president and one other designated member of the Executive Committee have sole authority to sign contracts and agreements being entered on NAPVI's behalf. Passed.

Henry Hedgecock moved that all contracts negotiated by NAPVI be maintained on file in the national office and the Executive Committee receive copies of all contracts approved. (Tom Auletta seconded the motion.) Passed.

Kate Aldrich moved that the "Written Policy Limiting Ability To State NAPVI's Official Position" be approved. It was seconded by Tom Auletta and passed.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the speaker's fees resolution of January 16, 1981 be now considered a policy. The motion was approved by Tom Auletta and passed.

The newsletter was deleted from the list of payments requiring Board approval.

Henry Hedgecock moved to table the membership year and dues policy decisions until the 1988 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Kate Aldrich and approved.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the Robinsons be granted lifetime membership based on past contributions and services. The motion was passed.

Norma Lucas moved that the items referring to the Board contest and the on-time renewal gift in the three-year plan be removed. The motion passed.

The Executive Committee recommended that a telephone line be installed at Dr. Crandell's residence and that purchase of an answering machine for him be authorized, with Dr. Crandell working with the treasurer on costs. The motion was approved by the full Board.

The Sunday meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. with President Eileen Hudson presiding. Those present were Henry Hedgecock, Gail Granados, Christopher Cook, Norma Lucas, Joan Johnson, Tom Auletta, Diana Cuthbertson, Susan Fraser-Perrotta, Judith Stotland. Others attending were AFB Liaison Dr. Alana Zambone, Office Manager Denise Bair, Administrative Aide Keitha Robinson. The '83 minutes were accepted, (moved by Kate Aldrich, seconded by Gail Granados). The November, 1986 minutes were accepted, with the addition of Gail Granados as being present.

Kate Aldrich moved to accept the treasurer's report (seconded by Norma Lucas); passed.

The Executive Committee approved the shipment of "Mainstreaming" to Hadley School for the Blind." Passed.

The Executive Committee approved the continuance of Parent Consultants as Administrative Aide to the Executive Director at a fee of \$100 per week. (Funds will be obtained by freezing the executive director's line to the cost amount.)

Henry Hedgecock moved to raise the spending approval limit to \$500 (Kate seconded); passed.

Kate Aldrich moved that the term "multisensory deprivation (MSD) be included with deaf/blind whenever NAPVI lists VI and multihandicapped (Tom Auletta seconded); passed.

Diana Cuthbertson moved to change the member-at-large rotation to align with regions 1 and 3 (Gail Granados seconded); passed.

Affiliations Committee recommended the affiliation of Central Maryland be affiliated. Passed.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the following scholarships be accepted: Student scholarship - motion carried; Professional scholarship - passed; The multihandicapped and/or multisensory child scholarship will be awarded after the \$500 goal is reached . (Joan Johnson seconded); passed.

Judy Stotland moved that a scholarship be set up for gifted children, to be awarded when \$500 is raised (Gail Granados seconded); passed.

The following bylaws changes were approved (after being reported out by the Resolutions Committee:

Article III, (Officers) Section 2, Paragraph 2 (page 8) language changed to "...shall serve for a period of four (4) years." The sentence "No individual may, however, occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms" was deleted. The sentence "the president may not occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms" was added.

Article II (Board of Directors) Section 2, p. 2: "Individuals serving as directors by virtue of their election to the offices described in lArticle III of these bylaws shall serve as directors for terms concurrent with their service in the NAPVI offices described in Article III. Those directors representing the six NAPVI organization regions and the director serving as a member-at-large shall serve a four (4) year term. "Four" was substituted for "three.")

Article II (Officers) Section 8, (p. 11): With the Preisent and other proper officer or agent authorized by the Board of Directors, the treasurer (substituted for "secretary") shall sign such grant applications, contracts, solicitations for donations or other instruments binding upon the NAPVI which the Board of Directors has by specific or general action authorized to be executed.

The motion was made that the effective of these bylaws changes be the date that the newsletter comes out that contains them.

Passed.

Following is a chart showing the new rotation schedule for elections. (See Judith Stotland for interpretation.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Region 1, 3, 5

Region 2, 4, 6 & At-Large

Joan Johnson was officially appointed to the Board from Region 3 by President Eileen Hudson.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the Board give the secretary and the administrative aide authority to make grammatical corrections to the minutes. (Seconded by Gail) passed.

Judi Stotland moved that a representative attend the ALL meeting in March. (seconded; passed)

The Resolutions Committee approved the following Resolution (passed by the full Board):

87.1 RESOLUTION ON LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS appropriately credentialled specialists must be provided to meet the unique educational needs of visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS these learning and skill acquisition needs require specialized curricula that is supplemental to but does not supplant the traditional curriculum; and

WHEREAS the least restrictive environment is not solely determined by opportunities for interaction with sighted peers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NAPVI reaffirms interpretation of "Least Restrictive Environment" for the visually impaired child to be a range of options including but not limited to resource rooms, regular classrooms, out-of-home placements and special day classes.

POLICY ON ANSWERING PERSONAL INQUIRIES TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE

When there are requests for personal contact by phone or letter with another parent. The executive director will attempt to match the needs of the person requesting with another member having similar experience or geographic location and forward a copy of the letter along with a request to respond by a specific date and return a copy of the response to the national office. The executive director or designee will follow-up to be sure letter is answered or reassigned in a timely fashion.

T-SHIRTS AND MEMORIES OF THE '86 ARLINGTON CONVENTION

By Susan Fraser-Perrotta

When do you think of NAPVI? When the newsletter comes?
When you're in crisis and need a resource or a listening ear?
Fond NAPVI memories come to me at other different times.

When I open my drawer to put on my NAPVI T-shirt I get warm fuzzies all over. Wonderful memories of sharing emotions and information with other parents in the country, of a feeling that this "mission," we have is not just a local or state effort, that there is an excitement of having a national agenda to help get the necessary resources for our children and families and ourselves. "Hope Begins With Sharing" is with me for my morning walks when I throw it in the wash and when I fold the laundry.

When I see Oscar, my friend's child who is totally blind, with his "THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES" red T-shirt on. I get excited to think of how far he's come and his possibilities for the future.

It was a motion made by Henry Hedgecock that Speaker's Fee resolution of January 16, 1981 be now considered a policy. It was seconded by Tom Auletta and passed.

Don't you wish you had a T-shirt.

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Savings Account and Certificate of Deposit and Bonds

| | Savings | CD | Bonds | Total |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | 3,294.61 | 7,000.00 | | 10,294.61 |
| Withdrawals | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | | (6,000.00) |
| Deposit from checking | 3,700.00 | | | 3,700.00 |
| Bond | | | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Interest | 384.65 | | | 384.65 |
| | 4,379.26 | 4,000.00 | 500.00 | |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | | | 8,879.26 |

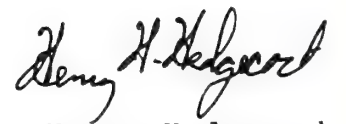
| | Scholarship | Total |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | | -0- |
| Buy from Checking | Bond | Total |
| | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | 1,000.00 |

Henry H. Hedgecock
Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Checking Account

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| Savings Account | | | |
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| Office Equipment | 4,708.42 | 4,000.00 | (708.42) |
| Souvenirs | 5,539.56 | 1,738.50 | (3,801.06) |
| Supplies | 737.65 | -0- | (737.65) |
| Rent | 2,527.26 | -0- | (2,527.26) |
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| Video Tapes | 239.20 | -0- | (239.20) |
| Scholarship | 1,000.00 | -0- | (1,000.00) |
| Outside Serv. | 9,521.00 | -0- | (9,521.00) |
| Phone | 3,461.69 | -0- | (3,461.69) |
| | 100,325.85 | 97,912.86 | |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | | 4,185.90 |


Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT
VALLEY FORGE EVALUATIONS

(AUGUST 7-9, 1987)

Number of Questionnaires tallied: 15

Total Registration: 37

1. What was your opinion of each of the following sessions/events you attended?

Keynote Address:

Extremely Beneficial (4) //
Very Beneficial (3) ///
Beneficial (2) //////
Not Beneficial (1) /

"The letter was interesting but I would rather have heard the speaker talk herself."

"Arrived after the Friday events."

"Not enough enthusiasm to begin the weekend events."

"I came in late and did not hear it all."

"We unfortunately arrived late and missed most of this."

"Would like to see this reprinted in AWARENESS."

"Would have loved to hear her in person!"

"Good, inspiring talk."

"Felt more information should have been offered on Friday evening even if it was films to watch at leisure."

Friday Evening Social:

Extremely Beneficial (4) ///
Very Beneficial (3) //////
Beneficial (2) //
Not Beneficial (1) //

"Needed some type of ice breaker"

"Talking to other parents is a tremendous help at this time."

"Relayed--enjoyable; also enjoyed the continued social at the bar."

"It was great to see old friends from Texas and make new ones too."

"Some kind of ice breaking method would have been helpful in intermingling everyone."

"I think there should have been an activity to "break the ice;" to introduce everyone and get us all talking to each other from other states."

"Sharing is one of the keys."

"Good to meet parents, talk with professionals."

"Could have possibly offered a film or slide show having to do with visual impairment."

Know Your Rights (Panel)

Extremely Beneficial (4) ////
Very Beneficial (3) /////
Beneficial (2) ////
Not Beneficial (1)

"A lot of information given in a short time."

"Kate's presentation was very helpful--would have been good if she gave the entire session."

"The information was conside and presented well; the '2' was because I personally did not gain but if I was a new parent it would have been '4'."

"Good info and handouts"

"Would have been better if not so fast paced."

"Very quick; not sure of purpose of this since sessions following went into greater detail."

"This session needed a little more time. It was rushed."

"Kate's presentation was too fast, but very good. If we do it that fast, we need copies of her notes or step-by-step outline in addition to other information provided."

"Seemed too hurried."

"Too fast."

"Too much information covered too fast. I could have read the info presented and got the same understanding."

"Speaker spoke too fast, handouts were good. Members need more specific info about each state."

Designing the IEP/Designing the System (Session I)

Extremely Beneficial (4) ///////////////
Very Beneficial (3) /
Beneficial (2) //
Not Beneficial (1) /

"Very Supportive"

"Role playing is barely helpful in the face of recalcitrant school boards."

"The information provided helped give me the knowledge that it was okay to expect the best, and what my child needs."

"Role playing--effective."

"Good info and handouts"

"Role playing was good. Gave me a lot of things to think about."

"This session was extremely helpful because it constructively showed how to work within the system to meet the goals your child may need--very pleased."

"More time would also have helped this session and me."

"Particularly California Guidelines to help list items that we can learn what services to ask for - However it needs reference to "sources" and "address"

"Our child is too young for an IEP yet."

"The role playing was interesting and got a lot of useful and beneficial info."

"Helpful information and knowledgeable people presenting."

Copies of role play would benefit all if published in newsletter."

Organizational leadership (Session II)

Extremely Beneficial (4) //////////////

Very Beneficial (3) ///

Beneficial (2) //

Not Beneficial (1)

"I learned a lot."

"Gail and Lee were a lovely combination. Positive, direct, experienced, humorous."

"Helped us with information on how to get our parent group going in the right direction."

"Just what I needed."

"Good info and handouts. I could have used even more specific information."

"Answered some questions I had as our affiliate is so new."

"Answered some very specific questions related to where our parent's group growth at this time."

"It answered a lot of my questions."

"Lee's tree analogy was excellent."

"More time needed and perhaps more detailed."

"I am not ready for this yet."

"Helpful information presented. Could have used more suggestions on good ideas for meetings."

"Would have appreciated more dynamics about how to keep a group going and ideas or support for topics at meetings. I think NAPVI could give more specific support to affiliates like workshop packets."

Advocacy: For the Individual; For the System (Session III)

Extremely Beneficial (4) //////////////

Very Beneficial (3) ///

Beneficial (2) //

Not Beneficial (1)

"Too soft"

"Excellent."

"Excellent info & handouts"

"Could have been shorter."

"A very good bull session. A bit too long."

"This session started out good but even though it allowed all of us to 'tell our stories' it was too late in the day. It dragged on, everyone seemed tired to be without structure."
 "Kay does an excellent job; step-by-step outline that is easy to follow."
 "Her caring attitude is quite refreshing. Outstanding speaker!"
 "I don't agree with the idea of printing the list of "what you always wanted to say to teachers" in the newsletter. My child's teachers receive the newsletter and I don't want them to feel antagonized. It would not help our relationship to have them think I am down here griping about them the entire time."
 "Would have appreciated points or workshop on assertiveness training. If professional attending I would have felt attacked at times."

Self-Advocacy (Teen Panel)

Extremely Beneficial (4) //////////
 Very Beneficial (3) ////
 Beneficial (2) //
 Not Beneficial (1)

"Very 'normal,' bright people
 "A lovely intersection of people"
 "Wonderful"
 "Could have used more structured questions initially"
 "As a parent of a multihandicapped visually impaired child 4 teenagres of the same would have helped me."
 "They really are just like every other teenager!"
 "Helps parents' perspective of kids, their potential and our future together."
 "Excellent! Could have used more time!"
 "Great kids"
 "Lovely."
 "Delightful. A panel of their mothers would also have been useful."

Wrap-Up Session

Extremely Beneficial (4) ////
 Very Beneficial (3) ////
 Beneficial (2)
 Not Beneficial (1) /*

"Loved the last test"
 "Could not stay."
 * "We left too early and missed this."

2. Please rate the overall seminar.

Extremely Beneficial (4) ///////////////
Very Beneficial (3) ///////////////
Beneficial (2) /
Not Beneficial (1)

"I learned a lot of supportive [sic]"

"Need more specific work on combating the real problems of education"

"Wonderful; learned so much and the people are great!"

"Thank you"

"Excellent"

"This conference was excellent in more specific information."

"Sessions were very informative; however, there could have been some been some better organizational setup times."

"I heard a lot of info I was looking for."

3. Please rate arrangements for the seminar:

a. Advance Notice and Publicity

Excellent ///////////////
Good ///////////////
Poor /

b. Transportation

Excellent ///
Good ////
Poor ////

"Need better map."

"Self"

"A map of local area should have hotel location marked on it."

"Map was not clear where the hotel was located."

c. Hotel room and services

Excellent ///////////////
Good ////
Poor ///

"Services were poor"

d. Meeting facilities

Excellent ///////////////
Good ////
Poor /

"Too cold"

"No natural light"

e. Schedule of meeting

Excellent /////
Good /////
Poor //

"Good free time"

f. Registration & information

Excellent //////////
Good //////////
Poor

g. Time of year

Excellent //
Good //////////
Poor //

h. Hand-outs

Excellent //////////
Good //////////
Poor

i. Prices

Excellent /////
Good //////////
Poor /

j. Speakers & Session Leaders

Excellent //////////
Good ////
Poor

"Would like to have had some system to have some networking for rides to conference, room sharing, etc."

4. What is the most helpful thing you have learned.

"The supportive organization"

"The phrase 'appropriate-inappropriate behavior'."

"There were so many fantastic people willing to help and lend support."

"Session II - Developing organization."

"Excellent handouts to share with group."

"I found out much more about IEP's and how to approach an IEP meeting."

"That I can handle my son's educational needs without the apprehensions I have been feeling."

"Advice regarding school systems and IEPs and what to expect with our new group."

"Better understanding of law and rights under the law."

"Not a thing, just the perspective I got and the energy I developed from the other parents."

"Mrs. Lucas was a great hostess and made everyone feel comfortable with each other. She is an inspiration."

"Camaraderie with other parents is energizing."

"Legal rights with IEPs and services child is entitled to."

"IEP and legal information."

"IEP."

5. How do you plan to help others use what you have learned at this seminar?

(A. and B. choice requested)

"Taking this information to our group at home"

"Talking to the Lions Club"

"Work on our parent group"

"Get training through TASK"

"Copy handouts for other parents"

"Give reports to three parent groups in my area"

"Work with local NAPVI group"

"Spread the word"

"Sharing at meetings"

"Mailings"

"Explaining parents' rights."

"Expanding horizons on IEPs."

"By sharing info of the IEP process."

"Further advancing our parent group."

"We now have potential direction for our group."

"I will also share this information with the Perkins School parent group."

"Copy all useful handouts and disseminate."

"Have similar session on law and IEP for our state meeting."

"Mostly with my VI son and family. I am not ready to reach out to others except on one-to-one basis."

"Reporting back to our parent support group."
"Using info to help get our group more active."

"Distribute handouts."

"Confidence in parents' part of educational plan."

6. How could this seminar have been improved?

"Held in a less expensive area."

"By recognizing the roots of negativity as seeds of growth. dissatisfaction begins with something and, if channeled, can lead to positivity."

"More organization information"

"Hotel efficiency was rated -B" (transcriber could not read figure)

"Ice breaking session at beginning of seminar"

"Yes, as referenced throughout."

"Something should have been planned to get everyone talking to each other, something fun."

"Location of registration packets so info. can be picked up after check into hotel - (various arrival times of attendees.)"

"Would have like to have the tapes available here to rent or borrow to listen to while here. The tapes appear great but are expensive, especially if you want to hear more than one."

"I wish I had used the bulletin board--I meant to and didn't. I would have like to talk with another parent with a child with albinism."

"Something more beneficial on Friday evening."

"More useful function on Friday evening"

"More focus on coping and family needs."

7. What additional topics would fit in well with a "hands-on" theme?

"Since we are educators - let's get more training on the specifics of the national level laws."

"How to deal with strangers/family"

"Going over a specific IEP"

"Early intervention info as to what various states are doing."

"Sessions on coping techniques and dealing with "burn-out."

"Assertiveness training; address other categories of children with VI and learning disability, multiple handicaps."

NOTES TAKEN FROM TAPES AT VALLEY FORGE MEETINGS
8-9-89

Dates for the Board Meeting - November 5, 6, 7, 8, 1987.

On the 5th and 6th Chris Cook and Susan Frazer-Perrotta will come in for training. Gail Granados will come in and work with Chris and Diana Cuthbertson will work with Susan. Business cards for Chris and Susan need to be ordered, as well as for Eileen, Gail and Jeanie.

Eileen will prepare a list for Denise of items which should be included in new Board member notebooks, Denise will see that they have them prior to the November meeting).

Valley Forge evaluations will be transcribed by Keitha, giving response to the workshops in much the same manner as that done by Elaine Moses and circulated to Board within the next two weeks.

Releases for the two seminars need to be filed in the office.

Dr. Davidow's speech will be given to Keitha to have spelling corrected and summarized for the newsletter.

In regard to Board training, Lee will add a summary paragraph concerning each of the committees to the Board job descriptions.

Henry will be the liaison with Alan Dinsmore in regard to legislative issues.

All resolutions need to be printed in the newsletter. Dr. Crandell and new Board members need copies.

A Theme for the 1989 Conference needs to be chosen. Lee has suggested "A Family of Services."

Keitha will mail the three-year plan to the rest of the Board.

Also a financial report within the next two weeks.

Chris and Sue will need the 1986 committee list.

Fund Raising Suggestions: National Convention, Father's Club,

Grandparent's Club (Dr. Crandell will come up with some more).

Los Angeles Seminar

Who will stay at the FJB camp?

Parents should get first dibs on the camp.

NAPVI materials for sale - will there be an area?

NAPVI will have a free exhibit table.

(A NAPVI member will have to be there at all times. Henry will be there for the bookkeeping. Bill Lucas did an excellent job at the booth in Valley Forge.)

This time we found that postponing putting the packets together - sending them two different ways was a problem.

Is the manning of the NAPVI booth something we could ask CAPVI to take on - Henry thinks NAPVI needs to take care of that function.

Henry suggests that we ship materials to just one person and send out a letter to that individual listing the materials that person is going to receive and three or four days later a follow-up communication. He also suggests an earlier cut-off date be set for shipping, preferably one month. The packets should also be put together in the NAPVI office. Someone who is registered early could be designated receiver of conference

materials. Alana Zambone says the hotel will hold items for those registered and says that she will be registered early.

NAPVI members including Board members should make their own reservations.

Announcement of the seminar will go out in the two newsletters before February.

(One problem with newsletter distribution is the 30-50 which come back nondeliverable. Henry has suggested that after two times returned, not to mail any more.)

Which Board members to send to the Los Angeles Seminar will be finalized at the November Board meeting; along with a decision as to whether or not to send Dr. Crandell. (Financial matters will play a strong part in the decisions.) A big goal for the coming year is to provide as much exposure as possible for Dr. Crandell around the field. Those present agreed that the president should stay at the Hilton.

Packets/handouts. Presenters need to be asked to decide these within the first month after acceptance. Office will provide an agenda, the maps, September newsletter. Final decision as to what goes in the packets will be made in November. Arrangement of the meeting rooms will also be done in November.

Transportation to the camp from the Airport?

Anna and Ed Del Castillo are looking up cheaper alternative hotels near the Hilton - also Kate will work on that.

Thursday workshop sessions:

10:15 - noon - Know Your Rights

Kate and Alana

2:00 - 3:30 - Organizational Leadership

(Lee and Gail, Josie and Jeanie as Alternate)

3:45 - 5:15 - Individual System Advocacy

Dr. Joan Stoddard

Those present suggested a Thursday night cookout at the camp. It was suggested that shuttle bus service be provided for those staying in downtown Hotels to and from the cookout. NAPVI will maintain a reception room.

A map is needed of the route from the hotel to the camp.

Friday morning - 10:15 - 12 - best for the parents. Employment - bring adult panel in from the California areas - Working years, AFB. Jack Hazekamp is the facilitator. Jack has already agreed to do it. Eileen and Kate will look for employed adults that are visually impaired. Eileen asked Kate to check with Judi and get back to us as soon as possible.

Friday - 1:30 - 2:45 p.m. - When There Are Additional

Disabilities

Julie Urban - Josie Garro

Joan Johnson (alternate)

Alana Zambone, Facilitater

Any couple that comes gets in for a single registration.

Friday - 3 - 5 p.m. Brothers and Sisters, Judi Stotland

Bob and Sharon Bentzen, Rebecca Wallace were
suggestions

Open up for discussion, sharing

Dr. William Doust, Blind Children's Center
(Eileen needs Kate to contact Judi about
Doust by 9-1)

NAPVI time is finished Friday at 5 p.m.

Do the presenters pay registration fees and the NAPVI Board pay
registration fees? AFB has set aside \$3-4,000 for scholarships.

The question of registration forms was raised. Should the NAPVI
office have a supply of these or does Denise have to say "contact
AFB." Henry thinks NAPVI should have some. It should be mailed
back to AFB.

Alan Dinsmore - The TASH probes into P.L. 89-313 may turn up some things that are useful. When Congress gets down to writing its letter to the General Accounting Office about what they want them to do, parents should have some input into that as well as to know more about P.L. 89-313. In some states there isn't a lot of accounting for residential schools.

Henry asked Alan about the July uproar within the Teacher Preparation Programs. The Department of Education wanted to take money out of teacher preparation programs (\$7 million) and set up a new series of initiatives which would require the state universities to have a cooperative agreement with their state education agency; however, in many cases universities serve multi-state areas, so they couldn't fit those guidelines. (Why should Oklahoma be interested in training someone from Arkansas?)

The main items that should concern parents with Congress are taken care of for the next couple of years: reauthorization of Education for the Handicapped, etc. but there will be a lot coming up. We are concerned about our teacher preparation programs, the fact that we're losing them, the fact that they are going to a generic program.

"It's rewarding to have people comment about what you're doing." Henry.

When I hear someone say, "Well, one person can't make a difference, I think that's just not true; one person can make a difference." - Alan Dinsmore

"People will get attracted to parent groups" - little by little." Alan Dinsmore)

The reason I wanted to talk about the federal legislation is that you don't have to be real concerned for a little while, and you can begin to look at the state legislature, the county and the city. One resource that we've been looking at is the National Conference of State Legislatures, based in Washington, D.C. They have a special education group. The character of state legislatures has changed a lot. It's not a backroom operation. These people are highly educated and very interested in the committees they happen to be serving on. They act as a clearinghouse of special education policy in state legislatures. We in Washington could benefit from guidance from parents when we work with this group.

Eileen - NAPVI is continually looking for ways of letting our membership know what's going on.

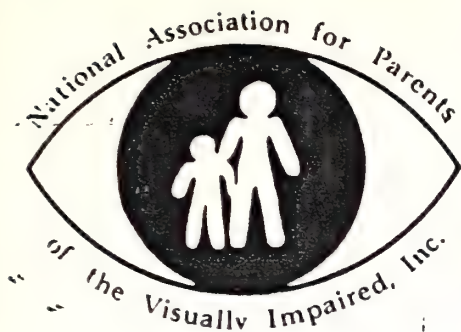
Alan suggested that the Los Angeles Symposium might be a forum for finding out what parents want to know about state and local government operation.

Alans office can help with sound feedback about issues. For instance, he says that since the big fight over P.L. 99-142, none of the Congressionals even want to hear of that anymore.

Eileen suggested that if the Legislative Committee was in touch with Alan prior to the Board meeting, it would cut down on Board meeting time deciding which issues were important. Alan sees his office being most useful from a "Timing" aspect.

This would utilize the Legislative Committee Meeting and it would keep the communication more open between NAPVI members.

Dr. Crandell also submitted a written summary of how NAPVI and AFB could work together (attached).



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 323-5710

August 3, 1987

Dear Eileen,

As per your request, I am sending this letter with suggestions as to how Alan Dinsmore can be of assistance to NAPVI out of his Washington, D.C. office. The ideas are not exhaustive but may stimulate you and Alan to think of other ways he can help.

First, I would think the most important area is that of pending legislation which could impact those with visual impairments. If we were to know of bills introduced early enough, we could mount a campaign to support or oppose these bills before they become law.

Once bills become law, there is a process of writing rules and regulations, with accompanying hearings. Again, if we could know when these hearings are scheduled, we could influence their nature.

In both of the above areas, it would be very helpful if we could have copies of the bills and/or the laws together with the rules and regs. If these could be sent on a routine basis, it would be most helpful.

Still another area in which we could use help is in terms of national trends in education, both general and special. As new ideas are proposed, it would be helpful if we could know about them and consider what effect they could have on the education of blind children. For example, the recent passage in Iowa of a tuition tax credit, if it were to become a national trend, could force major changes in education which could leave blind children in depleted public schools.

Legislation affecting vocational rehabilitation would likewise be of great interest. Children grow up to be adults and workers.

Officers

Laine Moses, President
Austin, Texas
Eileen Hudson, Vice President
Beloit, Wisconsin
Judith Stotland, Secretary
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Bill Granados
Norwich, Connecticut

Executive Director

Elitha Robinson (Acting)
Austin, Texas

NAPVI is a non-profit
organization.

NAPVI's officers and board
members serve on a volunteer
basis.

To Eileen Hudson From John Crandell
August 3, 1987
Page Two

Still another area is that of lawsuits associated with any or all of the above listed areas. There are, and will continue to be, differences of opinion regarding the intent or constitutionality of laws which will have to be decided by the courts. Awareness of some of the more important cases would be most helpful.

Last, but not least, are the relations among organizations of and for the blind. Even though we may not like an organization, it will still have an impact on how the blind and visually impaired are perceived by the public and unless we know by what and how we are being represented, we will not be able to influence public attitudes.

There are other areas, but hopefully the above will be a good start. If you have need of additional ideas, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


John M. Crandell, Jr.

NOV 6 1987

Working Agreement Between NAPVI and ACBP

Whereas the American Council of the Blind Parents, Inc. (ACBP) is an organization for and of people who are interested in the issues of parenting visually impaired and multiply impaired children, and the issues of being visually impaired parents, and whose executive officers must be parents, and

Whereas the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is an organization for and of parents of visually impaired and multiply impaired children, providing support, information, and services to parents, and to other interested persons, and whose board and executive officers are all parents of visually impaired and/or multiply impaired children, and

Whereas both organizations agree that we have interests in common and that we can be most effective in many instances by working together on mutual goals,

Now therefore be it resolved that on this _____ day of _____ 1984
NAPVI and ACBP will do the following:

- (1) Exchange newsletters to home offices at no charge
- (2) Exchange information and work cooperatively on issues of mutual interest
- (3) Freely and with goodwill make referrals to one another as appropriate and as best serves the needs of the individual seeking assistance
- (4) Make every effort to comprehend and respect the differences between the two organizations, as well as the similarities
- (5) Maintain contact by a designated liaison from each board and/or any other methods deemed appropriate to the situation

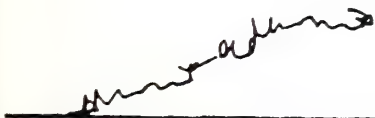
April 12, 1984

To: The boards of NAPVI and ACBP

The above is a draft written by Bonnie Adams (ACBP) and Judi Stotland (NAPVI) to replace previous attempts at agreement statements between our organizations. In fact, neither of us have seen a copy of previous statements. We have written what we feel is in the best interest of both groups and can be the basis of a working relationship between our organizations.

We submit this draft for your comments to be returned to Bonnie or Judi no later than May 15 so we can prepare a final draft. If we have not heard from you by that date, we will assume you approve.

Thank you for your help,



Bonnie Adams



Judi Stotland

NOV 6 1987

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) and the American Council of Blind Parents (ACBP) are national membership associations for parents. It has been brought to the attention of both organizations that there is growing concern in the field of blindness as to the differences of membership and purposes of these two groups. It is for this reason that this statement defining the differences of the two organizations has been jointly prepared.

The A.C.B.P. states that it is for blind parents. However, in addition, it is a broadly-based organization offering support for blind parents of sighted children, blind parents of visually impaired children as well as sighted parents of visually impaired children. All parent members have voting power. It's major focus is support and information to parents by means of a quarterly newsletter. All parents joining ACBP automatically become members of the American Council of the Blind, one of the largest consumer organizations in the United States.

The NAPVI is a non-profit organization of, by, and for parents and families of children and youth who have visual impairments. Although membership is open to any community organizations, agencies, and individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI, only members who are parents of visually impaired children and youth have voting power and constitute the board of directors.

NAPVI's goals and objectives are to:

promote and provide information through workshops and publications which will help parents meet the special needs of their visually impaired child,

promote the development of state and local organizations of, by and for parents of visually impaired children,

increase public awareness about the visually impaired so they are accepted by society, and

foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state and local agencies and organizations involved with the visually impaired.

In the spirit of cooperation and for the purposes of avoiding duplication of effort, ACBP and NAPVI continually communicate and share all information as to the work of the respective organizations, but at this point in time feel that their membership and organizational purposes are not duplicative to the point of considering merging.

Further information regarding NAPVI AND ACBP may be obtained by contacting:

Lee Robinson, President
NAPVI, Inc.
2011 Hardy Circle
Austin, Texas 78757
512/459-6651

Gretchen Smith, President
ACBP
Route A, Box 78
Franklin, Louisiana 70538
318/836-9780

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Jan '87 - 31 Mar '87

CHECKING ACCOUNT

| | EXPENSES | RECEIPTS | BALANCE |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Jan '87 | | | 19,436.66 |
| Contribution | 82.04 | 8,260.00 | 8,177.96 |
| Dues | 27.40 | 1,864.00 | 1,836.60 |
| Conference | 16,327.57 | 6,208.36 | (10,119.21) |
| Office Equipment | 3,877.89 | 4,000.00 | 122.11 |
| Publications | 4,636.33 | 404.00 | (4,232.33) |
| Booths | | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| Souvenirs | 250.41 | 4.00 | (246.41) |
| Advertisement | | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| Audio Tapes | 50.00 | 48.00 | (2.00) |
| Postages | 1,499.79 | 35.00 | (1,464.79) |
| Bank Charge | 3.00 | 1.50 | (1.50) |
| Supplies | 111.31 | | (111.31) |
| Rent | 914.76 | | (914.76) |
| Saving Account | 3,000.00 | | (3,000.00) |
| Misc. | 207.60 | | (207.60) |
| Travel | 1,794.79 | | (1,794.79) |
| Outside Service | 2,520.00 | | (2,520.00) |
| Phone | 926.75 | | (926.75) |
| Video Tapes | 239.20 | | (239.20) |
| | 36,468.84 | 21,254.86 | (12,213.98) |
| Ending Balance 31 Mar '87 | | | 4,222.68 |

SAVINGS ACCOUNT AND CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

| | Savings | CD | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Jan '87 | 378.58 | 4,000.00 | 4,378.58 |
| Deposit from Checking | 3,000.00 | | 3,000.00 |
| Interests | 168.25 | | 168.25 |
| Ending Balance | 3,546.83 | 4,000.00 | 7,546.83 |

Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer/NAPVI

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ANNUAL MEETING

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 5-8, 1987

Thursday, November 5, at 9:02 p.m., the NAPVI annual Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Acting President Eileen Hudson. Those present included Judith Stotland, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, treasurer; Board members Gail Granados, Kate Aldrich, Tom Auletta, Joan Johnson, Chris Cook, AFB Liaison to the NAPVI Board Alana Zambone, Office Manager Denise Bair and Administrative Aide Keitha Robinson.

Thursday afternoon the various standing committees met in sessions in order to assess goals in relation to the three-year plan and to chart a short-term course of action for the coming months.

The Friday morning session of the NAPVI Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m. with Acting President Eileen Hudson conducting. Joining the group was Susan Fraser-Perrotta, Kay McKnight, Norma Lucas and Elaine Moses.

Dr. Alana Zambone announced that AFB has granted NAPVI \$10,000 for scholarships to parents to attend the AFB/FJB Symposium in Los Angeles in February. According to Dr. Zambone, AFB will send \$5,000 now and \$5,000 as NAPVI needs it.

The Program Committee drew up the following guidelines for the monies: All scholarships will be in the \$50 to \$250 range and must be applied for through the regional representatives of the NAPVI Board. All applicants must: be willing to stay at the Foundation for the Junior Blind Camp at Malibu, be a member of NAPVI; must be a parent or guardian of a visually impaired child and must present a list of anticipated expenses to their regional NAPVI representative. Those awarded scholarships who do not attend the symposium for any reason will be responsible to refund all monies to NAPVI.

During the Friday session Kate Aldrich and Gail Granados conducted training for new board members. Items covered included: the Buddy-For-A-Year Program, a brief history of NAPVI, job description for office personnel and board, board notebooks, office procedures, and run-down of board descriptions.

The Board discussed additional ways to make the transition onto the Board more comfortable for first-term board members: creating a training manual which would include affiliation process materials; a list of NAPVI publications & forms; placing a check list of items at the beginning of the large board notebooks they receive from the national office; overviews of expectations of committees; & having the nominating committee assign a board "buddy" to each new member.

Communications between board members at annual board meetings will be improved by having a sign-in sheet at the

registration desk listing the meeting rooms and rooms of other board members.

The Board received new documents prepared under the direction of Executive Director Dr. John Crandell, who was unable to attend the board meeting due to health reasons. These included the Fiscal 1988-1991 (Three Year) Plan; the NAPVI Policy Book and the NAPVI Work Book, which includes job description and standing committee function sheets. During the course of the three-day board meeting all three were corrected and approved by the Board of Directors. The documents titled "Funding for NAPVI" and "The Erie Canal" were reviewed with no action taken.

The Saturday session of the NAPVI Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Acting President Eileen Hudson. Joining the group was Diana Cuthbertson.

The Program Committee reported recommendations of its meeting regarding the 1989 Conference. Chairman Gail Granados stated that the date of September 28-October 1 (or the weekend before or after) was the Committee's top preference, with Chicago, (accessibility by air, existence of an organized statewide parent group, feedback from surveys) as first choice, then Nashville, St. Louis or Louisville.

After much discussion, the theme for '89 was recommended to be; "A Family of Services-The Family & Beyond-The Child, The Parents & The Community"

Mrs. Granados is compiling a list of speakers and topics.

Conference Coordinators, Ltd. will conduct registration, probably at a rate of \$8 per person or \$4 for couple built into registration fees. The Executive Board/Program Committee will meet with CCL in February in Los Angeles.

Discussion centered on extending the membership year to 16 months. Mr. Hedgecock feels that many parents who renew are expecting to be members for the next year when they pay them in September. Mr. Hedgecock moved to table the discussion on membership year dues policy until the next annual Board meeting. Seconded by Kate Aldrich.

All contracts negotiated by NAPVI should be filed in the office. The executive committee shall receive copies of all contracts.

Mr. Hedgecock reported on membership: 1150 members, including 744 parents; 75 group/agencies, 15 supporting, 32 associates. Foreign members are found in Bermuda (one), England (two) and Canada (four).

Fund Raising Committee Chairman Henry Hedgecock reported for his committee, which looked toward national conference funding, an increased membership appeal; establishment of endowment and scholarship funds. Projects which will begin in 1988 include corporate giving (re-approach Chrysler, McDonalds, Dr. Don Hubbs). The committee will seek grants for transition money for parent training workshops. Diana Cuthbertson has agreed to work with Dr. Crandell on grant writing. Susan Fraser-Perrotta has introduced a T-Shirt campaign, with marketing to begin with a

survey involving regional representatives assessing how much respondents would pay for t-shirts and what color t-shirts (purple, pink). She has suggested a contest between regions so that members may elect the sayings they prefer on their t-shirts. Some winner prize options might include partially paying a winner's way to the National Conference; giving affiliate groups a free number of t-shirts or a \$1 discount on the t-shirt. Groups would be able to make large orders. NAPVI must plan so it can pre-order but not stock-pile t-shirts. Board member Kay McKnight has a relative who owns a t-shirt shop. The Board approved Susan's pursuing these ideas.

^SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT :CRITERIA-Two scholarships shall be awarded(per year, as appropriate), one to a visually impaired person and one to an individual entering the vision field.

^CRITERIA FOR A STUDENT:The selected individual must be visually impaired.

The selected individual must show acceptance or continued enrollment in an institute of higher education, college or vocational training.The selected individual must have an acceptable grade point average.The selected individual must be part of a family the parents whose belong to NAPVI.

This selected individual must be an all-around student with a broad range of interests. The selected individual must furnish two (2) letters of reference from non-family members. Selection will be based on financial need.

^CRITERIA FOR A PROFESSIONAL: The selected individual must be a member of NAPVI. The selected individual will be a professional in the field of vision or an individual preparing to study to become a professional in the field of vision. The selected individual will show acceptance in an ongoing program of vision, or orientation and mobility. The selected individual must demonstrate financial need. The selected individual must have an acceptable grade point average.

^PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES: Applicants will submit a personal data sheet and arrange for the submission of two (2) letters of recommendation from non-family members. Applications must be submitted by March 1 of any given year to Scholarship Chairman care of NAPVI office. A selection will be made by NAPVI office May 1 of the same year. The check will be made payable to the institution rather than the individual.

The first scholarship will be awarded at the National Conference in 1989 and delivered in the spring of 1990.

Kate Aldrich proposed a third scholarship category, which would be awarded to a visually impaired child who does not excel academically but who has other needs (such as the multihandicapped). Several board members pledged seed money for this. Mrs. Aldrich suggested that such a scholarship fund be established with variable criteria to assist the MH visually impaired child attending private clinics, summer camps, daily

living skill programs, etc. Scholarship money might be used for transportation as well as tuition; may be partial or full.

Mrs. Stotland proposed the establishment of a fourth scholarship fund for the enrichment programs for the gifted visually impaired child.

Guidelines will be drawn up by the Scholarship Committee and the monies will be awarded after a \$500 goal is reached in each category.

In a report concerning the newly formed Early Intervention Committee Chairmen Chris Cook announced that the primary short-term purpose will be to inform parents of their rights under 99-457, with other activities to include writing letters to governors' offices in order to compile a list of lead agencies, writing the lead agency in order to ask what they plan to do for visually impaired in the 0-2 category and in the 3-5 preschool category. That information will be compiled, with the help of the Resource Lists Committee, into an evaluation report as to whether vision is targeted adequately in each state.

Joan Johnson of the Research and Review Committee reported on progress on the Take Charge! revisions, status of the Eye Book, printing of Mainstreaming.

Norma Lucas, chair of the Membership Committee, said that her committee feels that neonatal units should be targeted to receive NAPVI material. She suggested that a "Number One Affiliate Award" be given at NAPVI's biennial meeting. Her

committee also suggests encouraging groups to become state affiliates.

Nominations Committee Chair Diana Cuthbertson submitted a new election rotation schedule, noting that rotation would be a little different after the first few times. Mrs. Cuthbertson also noted that the next elections will occur in regions 2 and 4, underscoring the importance of present board members deciding quickly if they will re-run; also recommendations of other interested candidates need to be made as soon as possible. The Nominations Committee, which also includes Susan Fraser-Perrotta, drew up a draft of a new elections packet.

The Sunday meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. with President Eileen Hudson presiding. Those present were Henry Hedgecock, Gail Granados, Chris Cook, Norma Lucas, Joan Johnson, Tom Auletta, Diana Cuthbertson, Susan Fraser-Perrotta, Judith Stotland. Others attending were AFB Liaison Dr. Alana Zambone. Office Manager Denise Bair, Administrative Aide Keitha Robinson. The 83' minutes were accepted, (moved by Kate Aldrich, seconded by Gail Granados). The November, 1987 minutes were accepted, with addition of Gail Granados as being present. Kate Aldrich moved to accept the treasurer's report (seconded by Norma Lucas); passed.

The Executive Committee approved the shipment of "Mainstreaming" to Hadley School for the Blind." Passed.

The Executive Committee approved the continuance of Parent Consultants as Administrative Aide to the Executive Director at a

fee of \$100 per week. (Funds will be obtained by freezing the executive director's line to the cost amount.)

Henry Hedgecock moved to raise the spending approval limit to \$500 (Kate seconded); passed.

Kate Aldrich moved that the term "multisensory deprivation" (Deaf-Blind) be included whenever NAPVI lists VI and multihandicapped (Tom Auletta seconded); passed.

Diana Cuthbertson moved to change the member-at-large rotation to align with regions 1 and 3 (Gail Granados seconded); passed.

Affiliations Committee recommended the Affiliation of Central Maryland be affiliated. Passed.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the following scholarships be accepted: Student Scholarship - motion carried; Professional Scholarship - passed; The multihandicapped and/or multisensory child scholarship will be awarded after \$500 goal is reached. (Joan Johnson seconded); passed.

Judi Stotland moved that a scholarship be set up for gifted children, to be awarded when \$500 is raised (Gail Granados seconded); passed.

The following bylaws changes were approved (after being reported out by the Resolutions Committee:

Article III, (officers) Section 2, Paragraph 2 (page 8) language changed to "...shall serve for a period of four (4) years." The sentence "No individual may, however, occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms" was deleted.

The sentence "the president may not occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms" was added.

Article II (Board of Directors) Section 2, p.2:

"Individuals serving as directors by virtue of their election to the offices described in Article III of these bylaws shall serve as directors for terms concurrent with their service in the NAPVI offices described in Article III. Those directors representing the six NAPVI organization regions and the director serving as a member-at-large shall serve a four (4) year term. ("Four" was substituted for "three".)

To comply with the new four year term, the following schedule for election was approved: Regions I, III, and at large are elected 1987, 1990, and 1994.

Regions II and IV are elected 1988, 1992, and 1996.

Regions V and VI are elected 1989, 1993, and 1997.

Article II (Officers) Section 8, (p.11): With the president and other proper officer or agent authorized by the Board of Directors, the treasurer (substituted for "secretary") shall sign such grant applications, contracts, solicitations for donations or other instruments binding upon the NAPVI which the Board of Directors has by specific or general action authorized to be executed.

The motion was made that the effective date of these bylaws changes be the date that the newsletter comes out that contains them. Passed.

Joan Johnson was offically appointed to the Board from Region 3 by President Eileen Hudson.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the Board give the secretary and the administrative aide authority to make grammatical corrections to the minutes. (Seconded by Gail) Passed.

Judi Stotland moved that a representative attend the All meeting in March. (seconded by Gail; passed)

The Resolutions Committee approved the following Resolution (passed by the full board):

^87.1 RESOLUTION ON LEAST RESTRICTIVE
ENVIROMENT^

WHEREAS appropriately credentialled specialists must be provided to meet the unique educational needs of visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS these learning and skill acquisition needs require specialized curricula that is supplemental to but does not supplant the traditional curriculum; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NAPVI reaffirms interpretation of "Least Restrictive Enviroment" as a range of options (including but not limited to resource rooms, regular classrooms, out-of-home placements and special day classes) any of which may be the appropriate placement for an individual child at a specific time.

^POLICY ON ANSWERING PERSONAL INQUIRIES TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE^

When there are requests for personal contact with another parent, the executive director will attempt to match the needs of the person requesting with another member having similar experience or geographic location, if the request is by letter, the director will forward a copy and ask for a response by a specific date. The member will be asked to return a copy of his/her response to the national office. The executive director or designee will follow-up to be sure the letter or call letter is answered or reassigned on a timely fashion.

IN VOTE ACTION

The Executive Committee recommended that the President and Treasurer have sole authority to sign contracts and agreements being entered on NAPVI's behalf. Passed.

Dr. Alana Zambone presented a charge to new officers who took office officially at the Sunday morning Board meeting. She presented plaques for service to Elaine Moses, immediate past president and Mrs. Stotland, retiring secretary. Taking office are Eillen Hudson, president; Gail Granados, vice president; Jeanie Flack, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, treasurer.

Henry Hedgecock moved that all contracts negotiated by NAPVI be maintained on file in the national office and the Executive Committee receive copies of all contracts approved. (Tom Auletta seconded the motion.) Passed.

Kate Aldrich moved that the "Written Policy Limiting Ability To State NAPVI's Official Position" be approved. It was seconded by Tom Auletta and passed.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the speaker's fees resolution of January 16, 1981 be now considered a policy. The motion was approved by Tom Auletta and passed.

The newsletter was deleted from the list of payments requiring board approval.

Henry Hedgecock moved to table the membership year and dues policy decisions until the 1988 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Kate Aldrich and approved.

Henry Hedgecock moved that the Robinsons be granted lifetime membership based upon past contributions and services. The motion was passed.

Norma Lucas moved that the items referring to the Board contest and the on-time renewal gift in the three-year plan be removed. The motion passed.

The Executive Committee recommended that a telephone line be installed at Dr. Crandell's residence and that purchase of an answering machine for him be authorized, with Dr. Crandell working with the treasurer on costs. The motion was approved by the full Board.

Sue Perrotta submitted the following:

^T-SHIRTS AND MEMORIES OF THE '86 ARLINGTON CONVENTION^

When do you think of NAPVI? When the newsletter comes?
When you're in crisis and need a resource or a listening ear?
Fond NAPVI memories come to me at other different times.

When I open my drawer to put on my NAPVI t-shirt I get warm fuzzies all over. Wonderful memories of sharing emotions and information with other parents in the country, of a feeling that this "mission" we have is not just a local or state effort, that there is an excitement of having a national agenda to help get the necessary resources for our children and families and ourselves. "Hope Begins With Sharing" is with me for my morning walks when I throw it in the wash and when I fold the laundry.

When I see Oscar, my friend's child who is totally blind, with his "THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES" red t-shirt on, I get excited to think of how far he's come and his possibilities for the future.

Don't you wish you had a t-shirt?

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 5, 1987

The Executive Committee of the NAPVI Board of Directors met on Wednesday, 11/04/87 at 9:00 p.m. Present were acting President Eileen Hudson, V.P. Gail Granados, Treasurer Henry Hedgecock, Secertary Judith Stotland, and Administrative Aide, Keitha Robinson. Minutes were approved by Executive Board.

H.H. presented the financial report. The checking account has \$6053.30. The scholarship fund has \$1,000, and the savings acct. has \$5475.04. Motion to approve treasurer report as filed.

The Executive Committee approved the following amendments to the office procedures manual for documents to be sent to Board Members; 1) Date stamp each document, 2) number pages, 3) print on both sides of a sheet, 4) documents to be 3-hole punched, 5) stamp or mark "file-notebook." The office is to maintain a complete specimen copy of the Board notebook.

H.H. submitted the 1988 budget.

Various by-laws changes were recommended for approval by the Board

1. New equipment/supply updates

- a. telephone line for J. Crandell
- b. answering machine for J. Crandell
- c. business cards, stationery authorization

2. Authorizations

- a. Mainstreaming - Hadley order for 100 copies
- b. Eye Book status
- c. Take Charge! revisions status
- d. administrative aide position
- e. Robinson life-time membership
- f. social security for Denise

3. Establishment of Early Intervention Committee

4. Need for Executive Director to write AFB letter reporting our use of grant monies.

5. Approval of on-time renewal gift, i.e. Mary Lou's suggestion.

6. Discussion of proposals from Mr. Bailey

7. Upcoming Meetings:

Eileen - Illinois Parent - Springfield, panel discussion, Nov.14

Lee R. - Iowa parent meeting, Nov.14-15

Henry - Display, Orlando; CEC national conference on "Frontiers & Front Lines: A Decade of Families, " J. W. Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, Keynote (December 4-6) Los Angeles Symposium (Feb. 3-6) 3rd Annual Statewide Deaf-Blind Multipy Handicapped Conference, Austin. Stouffer Hotel, (Feb. 19-20) Mail only, deadline Dec. 4, 500 participants, no phone calls please (one workshop sessions is "How To Handle Difficult Parents).

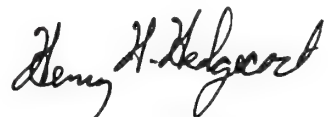
NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Checking Account

| | Expenses | Reciepts | Balance |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | | | \$ 6,598.89 |
| Booths | 4,039.18 | 6,782.25 | 2,743.07 |
| Advertisement | 92.99 | 3,630.00 | 3,537.01 |
| Raffle | 13.00 | 967.00 | 954.00 |
| Child Name | -0- | 140.00 | 140.00 |
| Contributions | 96.33 | 30,357.00 | 30,260.67 |
| Savings Account | | | |
| CD & Bonds | 4,200.00 | 6,000.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Annual Dues | 67.00 | 5,954.46 | 5,887.46 |
| Seminar | 377.82 | 1,890.00 | 1,512.18 |
| College Credit | 75.00 | 75.00 | -0- |
| Conference | 36,840.56 | 31,908.15 | (4,932.41) |
| Publications | 9,521.41 | 3,854.50 | (5,666.91) |
| Travel | 12,676.29 | 412.00 | (12,264.29) |
| Postages | 4,058.48 | 111.00 | (3,947.48) |
| Bank Charges | 17.56 | 15.00 | (2.56) |
| Audio Tapes | 117.50 | 78.00 | (39.50) |
| Office Equipment | 4,708.42 | 4,000.00 | (708.42) |
| Souvenirs | 5,539.56 | 1,738.50 | (3,801.06) |
| Supplies | 737.65 | -0- | (737.65) |
| Rent | 2,527.26 | -0- | (2,527.26) |
| Misc. | 397.95 | -0- | (397.95) |
| Video Tapes | 239.20 | -0- | (239.20) |
| Scholarship | 1,000.00 | -0- | (1,000.00) |
| Outside Serv. | 9,521.00 | -0- | (9,521.00) |
| Phone | 3,461.69 | -0- | (3,461.69) |
| | 100,325.85 | 97,912.86 | |

Ending Balance
31 Aug. '87

4,185.90



Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 Sept. '86 - 31 Aug. '87

Savings Account and Certificate of Deposit and Bonds

| | Savings | CD | Bonds | Total |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|------------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | 3,294.61 | 7,000.00 | | 10,294.61 |
| Withdrawals | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | | (6,000.00) |
| Deposit from checking | 3,700.00 | | | 3,700.00 |
| Bond | | | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Interest | 384.65 | | | 384.65 |
| | 4,379.26 | 4,000.00 | 500.00 | |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | | | 8,879.26 |

| Scholarship | Total |
|-------------|-------|
|-------------|-------|

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Beginning Balance 1 Sept. '86 | | -0- |
| Buy from Checking | Bond | Total |
| | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Ending Balance 31 Aug. '87 | | 1,000.00 |

Henry H. Hedgecock
Henry Hedgecock
Treasurer NAPVI

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY
IMPAIRED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - 19 MAY 1988 -
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

Minutes

The Executive Committee of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired convened at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn, Michigan at 3:20 P.M., Thursday, 19 May 1988. Those present were the Executive Committee Members Henry Hedgecock, Kate Aldridge, Chris Cook, Eileen Hudson, Gail Granados, and Jeanie Flack.

After having decided to wave the reading of the 1987 minutes of the Board until a later time, the meeting was brought to order by Eileen Hudson, the first topic of discussion being a report of current finances by Henry Hedgecock. Henry advised the Board of mistakes corrected reflecting an end balance of \$10,992.94 incorporating receipts of \$192.00, four scholarship bonds totalling \$1000.00, and savings/endowment of \$2172.00. Furthermore, \$32,000.00 for balance of FY 1988 was requested from AFB for proposed budget in order to defray expenses for transportation, maintaining contacts with affiliates, providing for increased attendance, and allowing for overall higher visibility. Additionally, per Chris Cook, it was

recommended that 2000 postcards be sent to the members/agencies in order to advise of the "800" phone number and of NAPVI's new mailing address costing some \$300.00 at \$.15 per card. This recommendation was approved by the Board for completion by 15 June 1988.

The next topic of discussion revolved around complaints about the timely production and distribution of the Newsletter, and it was proposed that, in light of the delays, that someone else be employed to compile the text and forward to the printer for final pasteup and run. Possibilities included the following: asking Kay Ferrell's doctoral students to do some writing and desktop publishing; have the Board members submit all text to Kay for input; have the Board members submit articles with the Quarterly Report and/or editing one article and submitting via electronic mail to Kay. Mr. Hedgecock would be sole responsible for the advertising copy.

The Executive Committee recommended, in conclusion, that Keitha Robinson be advised of the problem with the delays and of the impending possibility that the Newsletter would be done by someone else should these same problems continue, requesting that she first attempt to resolve them on her own. Another alternative suggested that Dr. Farrell work in conjunction with Mary Lou and the Board and make the production of the letter a concerted effort coupled with the

application for a bulk mail permit from USPS in order to make distribution that much more cost-efficient.

The third topic of discussion involved the problems with NAPVI affiliates and the lack of contact and coordination with the main body via the state/regional representatives. It was concluded that this lack of dialogue and support was contributing to not only the loss of current membership but also to a failure to enlist new affiliates within the several regions. One principal reason cited was the specific by-law stating that an affiliate in the formative stages was entitled to membership only after having been firmly established on the local level for a period of time. It was recommended that this rule be amended somewhat by providing NAPVI support through the informational Newsletter advising how we operate and how to contact us.

In order to remedy the situation, the Executive Committee recommended that Jeanie Flack be charged with the responsibility of coordinating with the regional reps to, in turn, maintain contact with the affiliates on a quarterly basis. The reps would advise the affiliates of renewal notices and dues, show how we operate and what we have to offer, clarification of problems, scheduling of outside speakers and NAPVI board members to attend meetings, ensuring that the affiliates are kept abreast of current events via the Newsletter, publishing a list of these

smaller affiliates in same, and, most importantly, soliciting new business through already-existing parent groups not currently with NAPVI; for example, Arizona, as suggested by Eileen Hudson in addition to the above recommendations. It was also suggested that the affiliates be particularly advised about the "800" phone number, sources of funds from either NAPVI or AFB, and to be encouraged to provide us with personal stories for subsequent publication. Jeanie would also be required to send welcome letters to the new affiliates, set up files and schedules to track their progress, and to provide non-members with a letter outlining reasons why NAPVI membership is more advantageous than "going it alone."

In a related matter, the subject of the Mainstreaming Books was raised. It was advised that the Mainstreaming Books were in the process of re-write by the author and that letters were sent to all those who had ordered. As of yet, no firm date of publication has been established and the possibility exists that current orders may have to be cancelled or at least postponed until a later date. It was recommended that production of the text be expedited and that assistance either was or could be offered by a staffer from the Blind Childrens' Center. The Executive Committee further recommended that the eye book be professionally typeset and that the galley proofs be submitted for review

and approval. Kate Aldridge will proof text, submit a request for quotation, and, in turn, advise Chris Cook.

The group spent a brief time discussing nominations for new board members, involving the addition of Diana's draft to the overall job description in addition to the packet and the nominations' packet to the Nominations Committee, re: Regions II & IV. It was speculated whether or not Norma was to remain on the Committee. Guidelines were also submitted with the new job description and it was recommended that the new guidelines be incorporated with Diana's draft for the training of new Board members. There was also discussion about extending membership into sixteen (16) months from the present tenure. It was recommended by the Executive Committee that we do not extend memberships to this length and memberships remain from January to January with member dues due and payable after 1 November of the year prior. The total count as of this meeting per Henry Hedgecock was approximately 775 individuals and holding; i.e., total members.

The next item on the agenda involved pending legislation; specifically, P.L. 99-457 and related activities. It was recommended that the Board needs to follow up on legislative alerts and that it should be Alan's responsibility to get parents to write to their senators and congressmen as an exercise in awareness. Furthermore, copies of these letters should be on file with NAPVI in

order to be redistributed again with a cover letter from the Committee. Senators Kennedy and Riker, for example, in addition to others, would be contacted in order to solicit support. The Board recommended that Alan Dinsmore continue in his lobbying efforts on the Hill, especially during time of legislative alert with all political types being made cognizant of the "800" number. Henry is to contact Alan for follow-up to the February conversation about obtaining sufficient funds to enable three each NAPVI Board members to go to the Hill to lend support to his efforts.

The Board next discussed the Buddy-for-a-Year program. The idea was entertained that a new board member should be elected for 1988 and that possibly two members should be added for this purpose. It was recommended that board training for new members in the 'buddy' plan should be formalized by both Gail Granados and Kate Aldridge and passed on to regional reps as part and parcel of their responsibilities with guidelines to be drafted up for both Board and non-Board members.

The Three-Year Plan with all the Committee assignments on it was compiled back in November 1987, re: Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock on a telecon with Don Bailey and it was agreed that it needs to be posted to Disc and forwarded to the Committee for printout. This is the assignment now for Gail.

On the subject of the executive notebook it was agreed that, again, one should be kept, that it should be three-hole punch for loose-leaf binder-type storage and that it should contain but not be limited to the minutes of the meetings and some but not all the contracts. This function will be Erica's responsibility to largely avoid duplication.

This, in turn, led to discussion of new policies concerning management of the office. It was agreed that no one individual should be charged with full responsibility for any one or number of functions, and that the workload needs to be shared. This will enable an on-going continuity allowing, for example, any one member of the Board or staff to step in, access the files, and assume a function should the need arise; e.g., the executive director, secretary, treasurer, et al. It was also recommended that a number of credit cards be issued to a certain limited number of Board members (five each) with a \$5000.00 credit line (aggregate) for necessities as they arise. This will cut down on reimbursement expenses for out-of-pocket expenditures maintaining better financial control.

The next item during the meeting involved surplus T-Shirts from the contest held in Texas. Susan's proposal and Eileen's letter regarding the disposal of this high inventory were discussed. It was decided that the sending out of another letter would be unnecessarily expensive owing to the fact that Eileen's initial letter did not get even

one response. Then the discussion centered on Susan's proposal. Chris Cook contacted the supplier who can silkscreen the T-Shirts and sell them for NAPVI on consignment. The Executive Board also recommends that Susan write an article in the next Newsletter concerning these items and, if no response by 1 September 1988, the matter should be dropped with a recommendation to the full Board.

The next item of discussion revolved around the subject of scholarships. Kate Aldridge is now the Chair of the Scholarship Committee. The first awards are to be given out at the 1989 convention. It was agreed that an article will be written ASAP to be inserted into the Newsletter describing the specific scholarships for the VH student & professional in the maximum amount of \$500.00. Applications for eligibility are available at the NAPVI general offices. The article must be in the fourth quarter Newsletter advising prospective candidates to submit their applications by 1 March 1989. There was also discussed the possibility of creating awards for other categories providing, of course, that funding will allow for it. Regardless of current financial status, however, the Board agreed that the Scholarship Committee needs to develop applications for all categories and, specifically, that a criteria must be established for gifted and MH categories. It was agreed by the full Board that this must be completed by November and to be put to a vote at that time.

On the subject of the by-laws, the Board agreed that the already-approved amendments to the same should be inserted into the next Newsletter for approval on the September ballot. At this juncture, Henry Hedgecock will pull his previous article and resubmit for publication. Error in by-laws corrected to reflect that the President and not the Treasurer should be the signatory to all contractual agreements.

On the subject of correspondence, Kay's letter requesting parent input on early intervention study. Ed to look into parent group at Blind Children's Center with Kate Aldridge to provide follow-up.

On the final subject of budget, the Executive Board passed the 1988 budget for FY 1988. The recommendation made by Kate Aldridge that the Budget be accepted was made in a motion to the full Board and seconded by Gail Granados. A motion was also passed to accept awards once a year. A number of other motions regarding advertising/marketing contracts authorized by the Board and letters from the President to the Chairmen of the various committees also passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30.

BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1988

The Executive Committee recommends the following proposed budget for 1988:

Income:

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| AFB | \$30,000 |
| Dues | 8,800 |
| Publications | 3,000 |
| Advertisement | 2,000 |
| Contributions | 1,500 |
| Postage | 100 |
| Conference | 3,500 |
| | <u>48,900</u> |

Expenditures:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Rent | 2,100 |
| Secretary | 7,560 |
| Newsletter | 4,600 |
| Director | 6,000 |
| Board Meeting | 5,000 |
| Summer Conference | 3,500 |
| Publications | 4,000 |
| Postage/Central Off. | 2,800 |
| Postage/Rest of Bd. | 330 |
| Office Supplies | 500 |
| Telephone/Cent. Off. | 2,500 |
| Telephone/ All Board | 600 |
| Executive Board Mtg. | 3,000 |
| Fund Raising | 4,500 |
| Total: | <u>46,690</u> |

NAPVI FINANCIAL REPORT
1 SEPT. '87 - 31 AUG. '88

| CHECKING ACCOUNT | EXPENSES | RECEIPTS | BALANCE |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE 1 SEPT. '87 | | | 4185.90 |
| BANK CHARGE | 60.22 | 0.00 | (60.22) |
| ANNUAL DUES | 17.00 | 7819.00 | 7802.00 |
| CONTRIBUTIONS | 0.00 | 31271.00 | 31271.00 |
| SOUVENIRS | 5.00 | 192.00 | 187.00 |
| SAVINGS ACCOUNT | 1480.42 | 3500.00 | 2019.58 |
| SCHOLARSHIP | 2500.00 | 250.00 | (2250.00) |
| L.A. CONFERENCE | 10340.00 | 10250.00 | (90.00) |
| ENDOWMENT FUND | 100.00 | 922.00 | 822.00 |
| *MOVING OFFICE | 2420.82 | 5080.00 | 2659.18 |
| PUBLICATIONS | 5014.49 | 3158.50 | (1855.99) |
| AUDIO TAPES | 45.00 | 72.00 | 27.00 |
| POSTAGE | 3458.14 | 191.50 | (3266.64) |
| OFFICE EQUIPMENT | 1255.66 | 89.00 | (1166.66) |
| TRAVEL | 16546.55 | 311.66 | (16234.89) |
| PHONE | 5503.91 | 39.56 | (5464.35) |
| SUPPLIES | 2185.55 | 0.00 | (2185.55) |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 181.46 | 0.00 | (181.46) |
| OUTSIDE SERVICE | 8601.33 | 0.00 | (8601.33) |
| RENT | 1710.00 | 0.00 | (1710.00) |
| ADVERTISEMENT | 0.00 | 990.00 | 990.00 |
| | <u>61425.55</u> | <u>64136.22</u> | <u>2710.67</u> |
| ENDING BALANCE 31 Dec. '87 AUG 88 | | | 6896.57 |

*THE REST OF THE MOVING OFFICE EXPENSES ARE ENTERED UNDER THE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS IN WHICH THEY WERE ACCRUED.

ENDOWMENT FUND, SCHOLARSHIP BONDS, SCHOLARSHIPS SAVINGS ACCOUNT,
SAVINGS BONDS AND CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT.

| | E.FUND | S.BOND | BONDS | S.S.A's | CD | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| BEG. BAL. 1 SEPT. '87 | 4379.26 | 1000.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 | 4000.00 | 9879.26 |
| WITHDRAWALS | 3500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4000.00 | (7500.00) |
| INTEREST | 370.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.63 | 0.00 | 382.74 |
| DEPOSIT | 5580.42 | 1000.00 | 0.00 | 1525.00 | 0.00 | 8105.42 |
| | <u>6829.79</u> | <u>2000.00</u> | <u>500.00</u> | <u>1537.63</u> | <u>0.00</u> | |
| ENDING BAL. 31 AUG. '88 | | | | | | 10867.42 |

Henry H. Hedgecock
HENRY H. HEDGECOCK
NAPVI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1989

This is the breakdown of NAPVI'S income expenditures to go with the proposed grant.

Income

32,000 AFB
9,000 dues
3,500 publications
3,000 advertisements
150 postage
200 audio tapes
1,500 souvenirs
2,500 contributions
51,850

Expenditures

7560 secretary
2400 rent
5000 newsletter
6000 annual board meeting & program committee meeting
3500 executive board meeting
5300 publications: Legislative Update, "How to Pack 'Em In"
"Mainstream" NAPVI'S brochures, fact sheet on
visual impairments and other materials
3700 postage: newsletters, publications, and reply to letters from
parents and board
500 postage: boards reply to letters from parents and office
4000 phone to board, parents, agency and 800 number communications
1000 phone from board, parents, agencies, and office
1000 Scholarship for Gifted, Multisensory Deficit or Multiple
Impairment of Visually Impaired
1000 endowment
400 misc.
800 supplies -- office
3500 other conf.: AERBVI, CEC, APH. and state CEC meetings, etc.
3000 NAPVI'S 1989 National Conf.
2500 fund raising : letter writing & travel

51,160

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

WHEREAS the hearing impaired and the visually impaired have enormous problems in communicating and social interaction with each other; and WHEREAS it is often difficult for the visually impaired as a low-incidence population with unique needs to obtain the individualized services required when grouped in a residential setting where they are outnumbered; and

WHEREAS we believe this to be an undesirable educational practice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November 1982, joins with other organizations in urging the responsible state agencies not to combine other residential schools with schools for the visually impaired and urges all parents to hold such agencies accountable and to resist such action.

RESOLUTION
82.2

PLACEMENT

WHEREAS the needs of every visually impaired child vary at any particular point in time; and

WHEREAS public, private, and residential schools offer many different types of services; and

WHEREAS the primary concern is the quality of services and opportunities available, independent of the setting in which it is offered;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, urges that parents be made aware of all the options available in order to make an informed choice about the best educational setting for their child.

RESOLUTION
82.3

ACCREDITATION

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a vested interest in the educational and rehabilitative programs offered to their children; and

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a right to expect that professionals in these programs are trained and qualified to work with visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a right to expect that schools and agencies meet minimum standards in administration, programming, planning, and evaluation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, supports procedures of accreditation involving a team of parents, consumers, and professionals knowledgeable about the field of visual impairment, and applying recognized standards such as those adopted by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped (NAC), the American Association of Workers for the Blind (AAWB), the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), and the American Foundation for the Blind's Guidelines for Public School Programs Serving Visually Handicapped Children (Spungin, 1981).

RESOLUTION
82.4

INSURANCE

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children - and particularly visually impaired children with additional impairments - have great difficulty locating an insurance company willing to provide medical coverage and life insurance; and

WHEREAS, when a child is insured, medical needs often exceed the limits of coverage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, urges the insurance industry and state insurance regulatory agencies, to become sensitive to meeting the needs of visually and multiply impaired children and their families and to seek creative and acceptable solutions to this pressing social need.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Five resolutions were presented and passed at the national conference. Two are printed in this edition and three others (dealing with the possible link between the lighting in the neonatal ICU and increased incidence of children with visual impairments; responsibility of parents for programs, services, etc. and funding for equipment and educational and support services), will be printed in the first quarter, 1987, edition of AWARENESS.

NAPVI RESOLUTION 86:1

WHEREAS we are successfully concluding an historic first National Conference of NAPVI, and

WHEREAS the success of the convention was in no small part due to the fine professional assistance of the City of Arlington, the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, the Convention Center, United Expositions, and particularly Naman & Associates, who coordinated services for us.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that we commend and thank these organizations and their staffs for their efforts on our behalf.

86:2

WHEREAS parents are aware of and accept the responsibility to lobby for programs, services and funding for blind and visually impaired students, and

WHEREAS, when they do so, parents are asked for supporting data regarding the numbers of blind and visually impaired children, and

WHEREAS parents are told that such data are currently unavailable because of issues of confidentiality, a wish not to distinguish among handicapping conditions and the requirements of an unduplicated count, whereby many blind children are counted as multihandicapped or in some other handicapping conditions, and, therefore, not blind,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we call on and support the field in gathering complete and appropriate data that will support our advocacy efforts and assure systematic planning.

86:3

WHEREAS funds for services to visually impaired children have decreased at local, state and national levels in recent years, and

WHEREAS the population of visually impaired children is growing and current funding levels have not kept pace with this growth, and

WHEREAS one result of this is fewer teachers trying to teach more students, and hence a serious erosion in not only the quantity but also the quality of services,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the parents of the first national convention of NAPVI in Arlington, Texas, on Nov. 8, 1986, call on local, state and national governmental bodies to make adequate funding for equipment and educational and support services for blind and visually impaired students from certified personnel a high budgetary priority.

86:4

WHEREAS there have been some preliminary studies indicating a possible link between the lighting in the neonatal ICU and an increased evidence of children with visual impairments, and

WHEREAS there is enough data to raise a concern, but insufficient data to attribute cause conclusively,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we call for increased funding to support continued research to resolve the issue of light effects, as well as to determine once and for all the cause and, if possible, prevention of retinopathy of prematurity as quickly as possible.



FEB 01 1988

NAPVI RESOLUTION 86:5

WHEREAS this 8th day of November, 1986, NAPVI is successfully completing its inspirational first national conference in Arlington, Texas, and

WHEREAS the perspective of our interest in attempting to meet the needs of the visually impaired children in this country, and our own precious children in particular, cannot by its very nature be either compromised or jeopardized.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, as constituent members of NAPVI, perceive ourselves anew as the purist and most valuable resource available to ALL visually impaired young people, and

BE IT RESOLVED that we accept the urgency of both the responsibility and the privilege of sharing the mission of the organization, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the need to network the BEST in programs, models, and ideas in order that services for visually impaired children will be equalized and that all will have the enhanced opportunity to reach their maximum potential.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY NAPVI

82.1 RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

WHEREAS the hearing impaired and the visually impaired have enormous problems in communicating and social interaction with each other, and

WHEREAS it is often difficult for the visually impaired as a low-incidence population with unique needs to obtain the individualized services required when grouped in a residential setting where they are outnumbered; and

WHEREAS we believe this to be an undesirable educational practice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, joins with other organizations in urging the responsible state agencies **not** to combine other residential schools with schools for the visually impaired and urges all parents to hold such agencies accountable and to resist such action.

82.2 PLACEMENT

WHEREAS the needs of every visually impaired child vary at any particular point in time; and

WHEREAS public, private, and residential schools offer many different types of services; and

WHEREAS the primary concern is the quality of services and opportunities available, independent of the setting in which it is offered,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, urges that parents be made aware of all the options available in order to make an informed choice about the best educational setting for their child.

82.3 ACCREDITATION

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a vested interest in the educational and rehabilitative programs offered to their children; and

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a right to expect that professionals in these programs are trained and qualified to work with visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children have a right to expect that schools and agencies meet minimum standards in administration, programming, planning, and evaluation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, supports procedures of accreditation involving a team of parents, consumers, and professionals knowledgeable about the field of visual impairment, and applying recognized standards such as those adopted by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped (NAC), the American Association of Workers for the Blind (AAWB), the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), and the American Foundation for the Blind's **Guidelines for Public School Programs Serving Visually Handicapped Children** (Spungin, 1981).

82.4 INSURANCE

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children--and particularly visually impaired children with additional impairments--have great difficulty locating an insurance company willing to provide medical coverage and life insurance; and

WHEREAS, when a child is insured, medical needs often exceed the limits of coverage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, urges the insurance industry and state insurance regulatory agencies, to become sensitive to meeting the needs of visually and multiply impaired children and their families and to seek creative and acceptable solutions to this pressing social need.

84.1 LITIGATION

WHEREAS, as parents of children with visual impairments, we are obligated to do our best to obtain appropriate educational services for our children, and

WHEREAS, in some circumstances, after our best attempts at communication and cooperation, it becomes necessary to resort to judicial remedies to establish the appropriateness of specific services, and

WHEREAS, parents who prevail in such proceedings could reasonably hope that their hardships not be compounded by legal costs,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas, in November 1984, supports the passage of legislation providing for the recovery of costs and attorneys' fees by parents who prevail in litigation against school districts on behalf of their children.

84.2 DECATEGORYIZATION

WHEREAS, local education agencies are increasingly resorting to a generic model to deliver services to blind and visually impaired infants, children and youth without regard to their unique learning and educational needs, and

WHEREAS, there is no evidence that cost efficiency, service delivery, academic achievement or developmental progress is improved by a generic approach and,

WHEREAS, such an approach frequently utilizes personnel who lack the expertise and training guaranteed to blind and visually impaired children by the Education for All Handicapped Children Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc., (NAPVI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas, in November, 1984, opposes all efforts to decategorize special education services that meet the unique needs of visually impaired children.

84.3 TEACHER SHORTAGE

WHEREAS, intervention by credentialed teachers of the visually impaired and by orientation and mobility specialists is vital to development and the ability to benefit from education for all blind and visually impaired children, and

WHEREAS, lack of adequate funds for employment of sufficient numbers of said teachers, combined with stringent cutbacks in and for the education of potential teachers, has resulted in both a severe teacher shortage and in caseload sizes that make quality service all but impossible, and

WHEREAS, similar motions have been passed by other professional and consumer organizations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas, in November, 1984, actively supports intensive measures for national recruitment, training and employment of professionals in the fields of the visually impaired and orientation and mobility to adequately meet our children's needs.

85.1 RESOLUTION ON GROUP HOMES

WHEREAS, group homes can enhance the quality of life, especially for some visually impaired individuals currently placed in state institutions, and

WHEREAS, the existance of such homes will provide a necessary option in the continuum of services available to the visually impaired, and

WHEREAS, proper functioning of such homes is dependent upon adequate support services and follow-up,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, hereby advocates support measures leading to increase the number of placements available in quality group homes as an alternative to the continuum of services available.

85.2 RESOLUTION ON RELATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, NAPVI recognizes that visually impaired children need the services of a credentialed teacher of the visually impaired and that many children need related services including, but not limited to, the following: occupational and/or physical therapy, adaptive P.E., speech and language therapy, orientation and mobility and transportation, and

WHEREAS, these services are sometimes not available because of lack of properly credentialed professionals, and

WHEREAS, the school district must retain the responsibility for ensuring that all related services are provided for each pupil as determined by the IEP and due process,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, actively supports the provision of appropriate related services to be insured without delay by the school district as specified by state and federal legislation.

85.3 RESOLUTION IN REAFFIRMATION OF P. L. 99-142

In recognition of the tenth anniversary of P.L. 94-142, the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is pleased to re-release our 1983 resolution and to re-affirm our commitment to the process and safeguards inherent in this landmark legislation.

83.1 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF P.L. 94-142

WHEREAS, The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI) exists to promote a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services for all blind and visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142 (the Education for all Handicapped Children Act) was implemented as a result of a decade of intensive efforts by parents and professionals working in concert on behalf of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 was intended and designed to promote the social and economic independence of disabled citizens and to reduce the incidence of restrictive and costly custodial institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 is an appropriate mechanism to ensure and provide for the active participation of parents in planning and implementing individualized educational programs for their disabled children, and creates due process safeguards for parental advocacy; and

WHEREAS, such independent parental advocacy, protected by due process safeguards, has stimulated more educational services to children with disabilities than in any other period of our national history; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive documentation is required by P.L. 94-142 to assure that legislative intent is carried out, and that such documentation can become excessive and counterproductive to the child's interest if left unchecked; and

WHEREAS, NAPVI supports efforts to keep excessive documentation to a minimum while monitoring individual student needs and the delivery of appropriate and effective educational services designed to ameliorate such needs; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in a significant long-term public savings through the enhancement of independent living skills of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in increased knowledge and technical benefits to the area of general education, benefiting society as a whole, while decreasing the social dependence of citizens with disabilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) reaffirms its complete support of P.L. 94-142; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI opposes pending and future attempts to emasculate P.L. 94-142 through deregulation, and especially through those efforts which might result in the elimination or limitation of due process rights, safeguards, procedures, and other key provisions which protect the educational rights of handicapped children, their parents and guardians, and their teachers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI, its members, affiliates and the constituency it represents, unite to safeguard the spirit of P.L. 94-142, and to utilize every available resource to guarantee

the rights of disabled children to a free and appropriate public education under this Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI actively support the full funding and implementation of P.L. 94-142 in the sure knowledge that this Act provides a cost-effective, equitable and moral response to the educational needs of all disabled children in these United States of America.

85.4 RESOLUTION ON AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS

WHEREAS, specially adapted materials are required for visually impaired students to participate fully in the educational process, and

WHEREAS, such materials are not received in a timely manner, that is, by the beginning of the school year for which they are needed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November, 1985, actively supports measures by local school districts, state departments of education and federal agencies to assure delivery of such materials, including, but not limited to, braille, large print, educational aids in the aforementioned timely manner.

86.1 EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

WHEREAS we are successfully concluding an historic first National Conference of NAPVI, and

WHEREAS the success of the convention was in no small part due to the fine professional assistance of the City of Arlington, the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, the Convention Center, United Expositions, and particularly Naman & Associates, who coordinated services for us,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we commend and thank these organizations and their staffs for their efforts on our behalf.

86.2, 86.3 and 86.4 will be added later

They concern lighting in the newborn neonatal ICU and the increased incidence of children with visual impairments; responsibility of parents for programs, services and etc.; funding for equipment and educational and support services.

86.5 RESOLUTION OF PURPOSE AND MEMBER COMMITMENT

WHEREAS this 8th day of November, 1986, NAPVI is successfully completing its inspirational first national conference in Arlington, Texas, and

WHEREAS the perspective of our interest in attempting to meet the needs of the visually impaired children in this country, and our own precious children in particular, cannot by its very nature be either compromised or jeopardized,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, as constituent members of NAPVI, perceive ourselves anew as the purist and most valuable resource available to ALL visually impaired young people, and

BE IT RESOLVED that we accept the urgency of both the responsibility and the privilege of sharing the mission of the organization, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the need to network the BEST in programs, models, and ideas in order that services for visually impaired children will be equalized and that all will have the enhanced opportunity to reach their maximum potential.



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

CRITERIA for Nominees to Board of Directors for The National Association For Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.:

1. Must be a PARENT of a visually impaired child.
2. Must be a member of NAPVI/National for at least one (1) yrst.
3. Must be actively involved in areas associated with visually impaired, such as but not limited to, parent organizations on a local or state level, state school or local school PTO or PTA, or other community groups that can help increase awareness and support parents of the visually impaired.
4. Three letters of reference:
 - a. One is preferred from a professional source, such as a teacher, principal, clergy, civic or charitable leader or medical contact.
5. Letter from nominee describing why nominee would like to be a member of the board of directors of NAPVI - this is also a letter of intent to accept the nomination.
6. Must be able to attend all board meetings and any other required NAPVI/national functions.
7. Return of completed personal fact sheet to nominations committee with letter of intent. (Nominee will be furnished form fact sheet from Nominations Committee Chairperson).
8. Nominating chairperson should send a special invitation letter to affiliates encouraging them to nominate a person from their affiliate for vacancies on NAPVI Board of Directors.

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC. SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

(Mrs.) Diana Cuthbertson
21 Milford Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Solicitation of nominations for Board of Directors will be published in the Spring newsletter. The region the nominees are to represent will also be published.

Chairperson of Nominations Committee receives nominations direct - address will be published in Spring newsletter.

A letter from Nominations Committee Chairperson is mailed to nominee informing the nominee of his nomination, who nominated them (if available) and asking for their Letter of Intent. Criteria sheet will be included for nominee to review.

When information comes back, Nominations Committee contacts the current Board member from that region to arrange a personal interview with the nominees; can be done in person or by phone.

Nominations Committee then makes its decision of the three most qualified nominations to be placed on the slate to the NAPVI Board of Directors. Space for one (1) write-in candidate will be included on ballot.

Ballots will be mailed in a separate mailing (from NAPVI/National Office) to ONLY the voting membership. The completed ballots will be returned inside the envelope provided to the NAPVI/National office for tabulation. Date of return postmark should be specified.

The newly elected Board of Directors members will be notified so they can be present at the annual Board meeting in November of that year. Election results will also be published in the newsletter.

If no nominations are received, the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee will contact the current Board Member for suggestions and also inquire as to that board member's interest with regard to serving another term on the NAPVI/National Board of Directors.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

October 31, 1988

The Nominations Committee was successful in recruiting an excellent candidate from Region II, Joyce Donnellon, who was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Cinninnati Association for the Blind. Mrs. Donnellon and her husband are leaders in their community, establishing the Tri-State Chapter of NAPVI.

Tom Auletta, representing Region IV and Exhibition Chair at our first NAPVI National Conference, consented to a second term. As in the past, he may be assigned sea duty during his term. The Member-at-Large can be utilized to cover the region in his absence.

The representation rotation of Region III continued to be a challenge. Attached please find the rotation schedule agreed to at the November, 1987 meeting. This needs to be discussed at the meeting of the Board and a final rotation accepted. Joan Johnson, who had agreed to serve an additional year by appointment, was asked to continue in her role as Region III representative.

Finally, as a recommendation, it would be most helpful to the Nominations Committee for each Board member to be working with several leaders from the states you represent, preparing and encouraging them to assume Board positions in the future. It is our goal to have several members seeking any given seat, instead of our committee selecting a Regional representative.

Diana Cuthbertson

10/31/88

Nominations Committee
Board Representative Election
Schedule

| Region | Years | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----|----|----|------|
| I | 84 | 87 | 90 | 94 | 98 |
| II | 85 | 88* | 92 | 96 | 2000 |
| III | 84 | ** | 90 | 94 | 98 |
| IV | 85 | 88 | 92 | 96 | 2000 |
| V | 86 | 89 | 93 | 97 | |
| VI | 86 | 89 | 93 | 97 | |
| At Large | 86 | 87 | 90 | 94 | |

This was the order proposed at the November, 1987 Board meeting. It must be reviewed by the Board and amended as needed, since there seemed to be some continued discussion around the schedule.

* Reflects shift to four year terms for Members of the Board

** Appointed for one year in 87; will serve two year term 88-90 to be restore original rotation schedule

DRAFT

Nominations Committee

Policy Statement

Following are the criteria for Nominations to the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.

The prospective Board Member:

1. must be a parent of a visually impaired child;
2. must be a member of NAFVI/National for at least one (1) year;
3. must be actively involved in areas associated with the visually impaired, such as but not limited to, parent organizations on a local or state level, state school or local school PTO or PTA, or other community groups that can help increase awareness and support to parents of the visually impaired.

Each applicant for a position on the Board of Directors will be sent a Nominations Packet, including the following:

1. Personnel Fact Sheet;
2. A Letter of Intent stating why the candidate would like to be a member of the Board of Directors;
3. A statement of willingness to attend board meetings and other NAFVI/National functions as required;
4. A request for three letters of reference, one of which must be from a professional in the field of vision. Others may be from a teacher, principal, employer, civic or charitable leader, medical professional, or other parent of a child with a visual impairment.

The Chairperson of the Nominations Committee will contact the current board member as to his/her interest in serving an additional term and seek suggestions for other candidates from the region who may be interested and qualified.

Nominations Committee

Procedures and Timelines

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| January | o Begin consideration of notices and nominations |
| February | o Determine if incumbants are eligible and wish to run for office o Write article for NAPVI Awareness Newsletter announcing vacancies for offices, regional board representatives |
| March | o Write letter to Affiliates/State Groups announcing vacancies o Send Nominations Packet to Affiliates/State Groups o Submit article by the 15th of the month to Awareness announcing vacancies and criteria for nomination |
| April | o Send Nominations Packet requested by interested individuals |
| May | o Continue to outreach to Board Members/Affiliates/State Groups for candidates o Awareness mailed |
| June | o 15th of the month is the deadline for application for officers/board members o 21th of month Nominations Committee determines the three most qualified nominations to be placed on the slate; a space is made for a write-in candidate o Prepare and submit article for Awareness giving biographies of nominees and election schedule |
| July | |
| August | o Awareness mailed o by 25th of month NAPVI office prepares mailing lists for election ballots o Ballots will be mailed under separate cover only to the voting membership. The completed ballots will be returned inside the envelope provided by the NAPVI office for tabulation. Date of return postmark should be specified. |
| September | o Office mails election ballot (first class) with first class return envelope |

- October o 1st of month office counts ballots and determines winners of the election
 o by 5th of month write article ~~about election results~~ and submit to Awareness editor
- November o 15th of month Awareness published
 o Install new officers and regional representatives at annual Board Meeting
 o Propose names for awards for following year

Please type on lined letterhead

Nominations Committee

PERSONNEL FACT SHEET

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
home work

Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____

| Family Members | Ages of Children | Eye Condition and/or Other Disability |
|----------------|---------------------|--|
|----------------|---------------------|--|

| | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
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| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
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| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |
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| 4. _____ | _____ | _____ |
|----------|-------|-------|

| | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 5. _____ | _____ | _____ |
|----------|-------|-------|

(List additional family members on reverse side of page)

Community Service

Please list parent organizations (local, state, national), state school or local PTA or other community groups on which you serve or have served.

Any additional information you wish to share:

Statement of Intent

Please indicate why you would like to be a member of the
NAPVI Board of Directors (continue on reverse side if you
wish):

I am willing to attend all annual NAPVI Board Meetings and other
NAPVI/National functions as required (expenses paid).

Signature

Date

Please obtain three letters of reference, one from a professional
in the field of vision to the Chairperson of Nominations. Let-
ters often come from a teacher, principal, employer, civic or
charitable leader, medical professional or other parent. Letters
should address how long and in what ways the person knows you and
recommends you as a responsible leader.

Please send letters and this Nomination Fact Sheet to:
Diana Cuthbertson, Chairperson of Nominations, 630 Fairmont
Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090.

NAPVI WORK BOOK

(DISCUSSION DRAFT PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL 11/87)

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BOARD COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

Kate Aldrich.....Resolutions (C), Program,
Early Intervention

Tom Auletta.....Early Intervention, Membership

Jackie Carroll.....Publicity

Fay Corey.....Awards (C), Membership

Chris Cook.....Early Intervention (C), Fund Raising

John Crandell.....Technical/Advisory, Fund Raising (C)
Newsletter

Diana Cuthbertson.....Nominations (C)

Kay Ferrell.....Resolutions, Technical/Advisory

Jeanie Flack.....Affiliations (C), Awards

Gail Granados.....Program (C), Fund Raising

Gale Hedgecock.....Research and Review (C), Program

Henry Hedgecock.....Fund Raising, Scholarship (C), Program

Eileen Hudson.....Program, Technical/Advisory

Joan Johnson.....Membership, Research and Review

Linda Katskee.....Affiliation

Norma Lucas.....Membership (C), Scholarship
Affiliations (Alternate)

Kay McKnight.....Resource List, Technical/Advisory
Research and Review

Elaine Moses.....Resource List, Resolutions

Susan Fraser-Perrotta...Fund Raising, Nominations, Scholarship

Keitha Robinson.....Newsletter, Publicity (C), Resource List

Lee Robinson.....Technical/Advisory (C)
Early Intervention

Judith Stotland.....Resolutions (C), Technical/Advisory
Affiliations

Mary Lou Wilkinson.....Newsletter (C)

Alana Zambone.....Technical/Advisory, Resolutions
Resource Lists

COMMITTEE ROSTER**Affiliations**

Jeanie Flack (C).....213/326-8391
 Judith Stotland.....818/763-1759
 Linda Katskee.....502/334-0430
 Norma Lucas (Alternate).....216/539-4649

Awards

Fay Corey (C).....412/371-4484
 Jeanie Flack.....213/326-8391

Early Intervention

Christopher Cook (C).....615/691-4179
 Lee Robinson.....312/249-1168
 Tom Auletta.....904/473-3185
 Kate Aldrich.....707/539-9603

Fund Raising

John M. Crandell (C).....801/465-4973
 Christopher Cook.....615/691-4179
 Susan Fraser-Perrotta...401/943-8946
 Henry Hedgecock (C).....315/245-2377
 Gail Granados.....203/887-4362

Membership

Norma Lucas (C).....216/539-4649
 Fay Corey.....412/371-4484
 Joan Johnson.....417/883-1140
 Tom Auletta.....904/473-3185

Newsletter

Mary Lou Wilkinson (C)..501/633-2737
 Keitha Robinson.....312/249-1168
 John Crandell.....801/465-4973

Nominations

Diana Cuthbertson (C)...201/654-4333
 Susan Fraser-Perrotta...401/943-8946

Program/Service

Gail Granados (C).....203/887-4362
 Gale Hedgecock.....315/245-2377
 Henry Hedgecock.....315/245-2377
 Eileen Hudson.....608/362-1380
 Kate Aldrich.....707/539-9603

Publicity

Keitha Robinson (C).....312/249-1168
 Jacqueline Carroll.....716/945-2116

Research and Review

Gale Hedgecock (C).....315/245-2377
 Joan Johnson.....417/883-1140
 Kay McKnight.....817/478-2313

Resolutions

Kate Aldrich (C).....707/539-9603
 Judith Stotland.....818/763-1759
 Elaine Moses.....512/345-7891
 Alana Zambone.....212/620-2000
 Kay Ferrell.....212/678-3862

Resource Lists

Kay McKnight (C).....817/478-2313
 Elaine Moses.....512/345-7891
 Alana Zambone.....212/620-2000
 Keitha Robinson.....312/249-1168

Scholarship

Henry Hedgecock (C).....315/245-2377
 Norma Lucas.....216/539-4649
 Susan Fraser-Perrotta...401/943-8946

Technical/Advisory

Lee Robinson (C).....312/249-1168
 John Crandell.....801/465-4973
 Kay Ferrell.....212/678-3862
 Eileen Hudson.....608/362-1380
 Alana Zambone.....212/620-2000
 Judith Stotland.....818/763-1759
 Kay McKnight.....817/478-2313

Legislative

Keitha

Henry

Dr. Crandell

Alan Dinsmore

National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: Member, National Technical Advisory Board

OVERVIEW:

A member of NAPVI's National Technical Advisory Board (NTAB) is a recognized expert in a field of work beneficial to parents of visually impaired children. This person is nominated and invited to serve by the NAPVI Board of Directors generally for a term of three years. *and/or children* While *review* serving on the NTAB the member shares his or her expertise and/or acts as consultant to committees of the Board of Directors as a whole. Because this is a volunteer position, most of the work done by NTAB members involves reviewing projects, consulting via telephone, corresponding with members and meeting with officers of NAPVI.

FUNCTIONS:

A member of the National Technical Advisory Board performs the following functions for or on behalf of NAPVI as requested by the Board of Directors.

Expands the knowledge available to NAPVI required in order to provide high quality services to parents of visually impaired children.

Supports NAPVI by identifying or contributing resources.

Provides introductions and linkage with others who may be of assistance in meeting NAPVI goals or project objectives.

Increases public awareness and enhances the public image of NAPVI.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

To be available for communication on a reasonable as needed basis;

To share and update information especially from his/her field of expertise;

To seek and advise the Board of Directors of opportunities to expand or enhance its services and resources;

To allow his/her name to be used in NAPVI's public relations efforts.

POSITION: Member, Board of Directors

OVERVIEW:

A director is the parent of a visually impaired child and is a member of the governing body of the organization. The person filling this position must both represent a constituency of parents similar to him/her self and protect the interests of the organization as a corporation. Active participation is required in planning and implementing programs, as well as in securing resources which may be used to benefit families of blind and visually impaired children.

FUNCTIONS:

A Director performs the following functions within the guidelines of the corporate charter and bylaws.

- 3 Makes policies for operation and management of NAPVI's central office.
- 2 Plans an annual budget and authorizes expenditures of NAPVI funds.
- 1 Plans programs and activities of NAPVI.
- 4 Adopts public statements of resolution by NAPVI.
- 6 Represents NAPVI at national, state and local events.
- 7 Communicates the needs of parents from a geographic area and advocates for those needs within the NAPVI Board of Directors.
- 1 Acts as NAPVI's liaison with affiliate groups within a geographic area.
- 9 Promotes increased NAPVI membership and participation.
- 8 Supports acquisition of financial, volunteer and other resources for NAPVI.

MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS: CONTINUED

RESPONSIBILITIES:

To attend meetings of the Board of Directors;

To become informed through study of NAPVI policies, procedures, and reports;

To provide reports of activities to the Board of Directors and Executive Director as directed by the board and officers;

To support activities, resolutions and policies as adopted by the Board of Directors.

To encourage other individuals and organizations to join NAPVI.

To direct committee and board activities as assigned by the officers.

To perform such other duties from time to time as will benefit the organization and as directed by the Board of Directors.

To seek resources which will support the activities of the organization.

To perform other activities as assigned by the Board of Directors

Position: **President**

Overview:

The president is the parent of a visually impaired child and is the presiding officer of NAPVI, with general responsibility for management and operations which implement the activities as approved by the Board of Directors. With authority from the Board of Directors, the president conducts meetings, acts as spokesperson and otherwise represents the organization in business and agreements with other organizations for the benefit of parents of visually impaired and blind children.

Functions:

The president performs the following functions within the guidelines of the corporate charter and bylaws.

Acts as the the organization's spokesperson to the general public on issues affecting the organization.

Presides at all meetings of the board of directors, executive committee and general membership.

Provides leadership in proposing and planning organization goals and activities.

Coordinates the operation of committees of the organization.

Provides general supervision of the executive director and central office staff.

Authorizes activities and transactions of the organization.

Functions as a member of the Executive Committee and an ex-officio member of all committees.

Responsibilities:

- * To attend and conduct meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and general membership;
- * To plan and prepare agendas, budgets and reports in accordance with corporate charter, bylaws and direction of the Board of Directors;
- * To appoint committees for implementing activities approved by the Board of Directors;
- * To assure that committee functions, assignments and activities are completed;
- * To give direction to the executive director for operation of central office support services;
- * To inform the Board of Directors of organization progress;
- * To represent or authorize representation of the organization in agreements, contracts, presentations and negotiations with other organizations;
- * To perform other activities as assigned by the Board of Directors.

Position: Vice President

Overview:

The Vice President is the parent of a visually impaired child and is to act as president in the president's absence. Until required to act as president, the vice president assists in giving direction and coordination to services offered by the organization, such as conferences, publications and other special service projects authorized by the Board of Directors.

Functions:

The vice president performs the following functions within the guidelines of the corporate charter and bylaws.

Provides leadership as a member of the Executive Committee.

Acts as coordinator/program chairman of national conferences.

Recommends activities and participation with other organizations which will promote and support NAPVI's goals.

Maintains information about potential speakers and participants for NAPVI programs, projects and activities.

Encourages public relations activities.

Responsibilities:

To attend board meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee;

To chair Program Committee of national conferences;

To provide general supervision of national conference preparation activities in the central office;

To evaluate and recommend program content, arrangements and location of national conferences;

To promote and coordinate NAPVI participation on programs of other organizations which serve parents of visually impaired children;

To recommend and assist with public relations activities;

To supervise the maintenance of a listing of potential speakers and participants for NAPVI conferences and activities;

To perform other activities as assigned by the Board of Directors.

Position: Secretary

Overview:

The secretary is the parent of a visually impaired child and acts to record the procedures and activities of the organization, as well as to provide information about activities, policies, resolutions, calendars and agendas to board members, committees, affiliate organizations and the general public as appropriate. The secretary supervises the preparation of minutes and reports, listings of membership, election procedures and reports of affiliate activities.

Functions:

Provides leadership as a member of the Executive Committee.

Assures that an accurate record of organizational proceedings and activities exists.

Promotes communication of information among board members, committees and affiliate organizations.

Assures that organization documents, such as bylaws, board policies and resolutions, are prepared and kept current.

Responsibilities:

To attend meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee;

To present minutes and reports of organization proceedings for approval of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee;

To provide general supervision for preparation of documents for distribution to board members, committees and affiliates;

To record and report the establishment of committees, the announcements of appointments and nominations and the results of elections;

To assist with releases of information about NAPVI and its activities.

Position: **Treasurer**

Overview:

The treasurer is the parent of a visually impaired child and acts to assure that NAPVI's funds are received properly and expended in accordance with the corporate charter and bylaws and as approved by the Board of Directors. The treasurer supervises the accounting and fiscal operation of the organization, including receipts, banking, disbursements, contracts regarding expenditures of all NAPVI funds.

Functions:

Provides leadership as a member of the Executive Committee.

Supervises the financial transactions of the organization.

Establishes NAPVI bank accounts and acts as the organization's representative with chosen banks.

Audits and accounts for funds of the organization in accordance with the bylaws and Board directives.

Recommends fiscal policies and procedures which meet the operational needs and responsibilities of NAPVI.

Supervises NAPVI fund-raising activities.

Responsibilities

To attend meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee;

To assure that there is an accurate record of all income and expenses of NAPVI in accordance with bylaws and policies;

To establish and maintain banking accounts that maximize the safety and earnings of NAPVI funds;

To disburse all NAPVI funds;

To cause an annual audit to be performed and report the results to the NAPVI Board of Directors;

To supervise and assure that proper reports and statements are filed with the Internal Revenue Service;

To authorize expenditures in accordance with board policies;

To supervise preparation and present an annual budget for approval of the Board of Directors; *to co-ordinate with Director & Pres. the preparation of*

To supervise activities of fund raising committees;

To provide such other services as the Board of Directors shall deem necessary.

Position: Executive Director

Overview:

The Executive Director is the chief executive officer of NAPVI, serving at the pleasure of and having authority from the Board of Directors to conduct those functions of the organization that are necessary for support of the purposes of the organization. The major responsibilities and duties of this position are concerned with operating a national office and providing direction of the technical planning and development of programs, policies and resolutions of the Board of Directors

Functions:

Directs the activities of staff of the national office.

Provides information and reports to the Board of Directors about the operation and progress of NAPVI.

Assists with planning, funding and implementing NAPVI projects, meetings, and resolutions assigned to individuals, boards and committees.

Acts as NAPVI spokesperson and liaison in accordance with policies and as directed by the Board of Directors.

Obtains and provides technical assistance for implementation of all NAPVI activities.

Enters into agreements and makes contracts on behalf of NAPVI as required and authorized for meeting organization needs.

Proposes activities, procedures and policies for the efficient and effective operation of NAPVI.

Maintains organization relationships with affiliates and nonaffiliated parent groups.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONTINUED

Responsibilities:

To arrange for and attend meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and other meetings as directed;

To supervise the preparation and distribution of documents, publications and reports of NAPVI on a timely basis;

To maintain historical and statistical information which is useful to the Board of Directors for planning, fund raising and public information;

To purchase goods and services needed for NAPVI operations;

To raise funds for the organization via grants, direct mail, advertising, services and sales;

To maintain documentation of all dues, sales, registrations, contributions, purchases, expenditures and other financial transactions of NAPVI;

To supervise and schedule work of office staff and volunteers;

To act as a spokesperson for NAPVI and do all that is possible to promote NAPVI's purposes;

To promote establishment and activation of affiliate parent groups;

To conduct or supervise official correspondence;

To perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall authorize and direct.

Position: Office Manager

Overview:

The office manager provides support services to the Board of Directors and membership of NAPVI at the direction of and under supervision of the Executive Director. General responsibilities of the office manager include: mailing, accounting, filing, clerical, inventory control, typing, telephoning and other activities which maintain an efficient central office for NAPVI.

Functions:

Prepares the documents and reports of the organization.

Maintains and controls the physical properties and supplies of NAPVI.

Establishes and maintains office practices that support activities of NAPVI.

Coordinates office activities which support the functions of the Board of Directors and Executive Director.

Coordinates information and services to the general membership, affiliates and parents of visually impaired children.

Responsibilities:

To prepare reports, lists, and other documents as directed by the Executive Director;

To process and distribute incoming mail for appropriate response and prepare and mail correspondence and materials;

To file correspondence, minutes, reports, membership records, resource information for NAPVI use.

To process membership applications and renewals;

To prepare or supervise preparation of mass mailings;

To maintain accurate membership records;

To supervise activities of volunteers related to office operations;

To perform other duties as directed by the Executive Director.

Position: **Immediate Past President**

Overview:

The Immediate Past President is the parent of a visually impaired child who has just completed his/her term as NAPVI president. The experience of this person is needed and utilized by the Board to lend continuity to the organization's activities. Responsibilities include sharing insight from past experience and assisting with the training of newly elected Board members.

Functions:

Oversees continuity of board policies and decisions.

Provides information and training to new members of the Board of Directors.

Provides information and advice to current Board.

Responsibilities:

To update notebooks and provide new Board members information related to position descriptions, committee assignments and committee purposes;

To meet with new board members to review and answer questions about functions and responsibilities of committees, officers, Board members and office staff;

To provide advice and information to the Board of Directors as requested;

To assure that amendments, board policies and resolutions adopted by the Board during his/her term are added to the board notebooks and are on file in the central office.

Position: **Editor**

Overview:

The editor provides direction and supervision for the publication of AWARENESS, NAPVI's quarterly newsletter. The newsletter is the chief means of communication to members and as such provides a valuable service. In addition, it serves many functions for the organization. Through this media the editor provides many functions important to NAPVI.

Functions:

Provides a means of communication between the organization's leadership and its membership.

Provides a valuable information service to members.

Provides a means of promoting services to visually impaired children.

Acts as a public relations tool for NAPVI.

Responsibilities:

To propose policies relating to production of the newsletter;

To gather news and prepare articles for publication;

To arrange for and supervise printing of the newsletter;

To develop and maintain circulation lists;

To solicit advertising.

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: President and Board of Directors

Chairman: Diana Cuthbertson

Members: Susan Fraser-Perrotta

Purpose: To propose office qualification criteria to the Board of Directors in accordance with bylaws for board approval;

To qualify and recommend a slate of candidates for election to Board of Directors and national officer;

To recommend procedures for nomination of officers;

To assure that letters of intent and recommendations are filed with the central office following each election period.

Schedule:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 2nd quarter | Annouce positions on the Board of Directors to be filled, the qualifications for each office and request nominations; |
| 3rd quarter | Provide biographies of the candidates selected to the membership; |
| 4th quarter | Provide announcement of election results to the general membership. |

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Awards Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: Board of Directors

Chairman: Fay Corey

Members: Jeanie Flack

Purpose: To propose to the Board of Directors from time to time awards which NAPVI feels are appropriate. In general, these awards should:

1. Recognize contributions to NAPVI;
2. Recognize service to parents of visually impaired children;
3. Support goals and purposes of NAPVI;
4. Promote work for the blind.

To choose the recipients of the "Outstanding Contribution Award" (for service to parents of the visually impaired) according to criteria established by the Board, first awarded in 1980.

To choose the recipients of the "Outstanding Practice Award" (for service to visually impaired children) according to criteria established by the Board, first awarded in 1986.

To choose the recipients of the "Volunteer of the Year Award" (for unpaid service to NAPVI) according to criteria established by the Board, first awarded in 1986.

Schedule: In general, NAPVI awards are given as nominations are made, but not to exceed one of each in the same calendar year. Nominations are sought on an ongoing basis.

Recipients to Date: **Outstanding Contribution**
Josephine Taylor
Dr. Katherine Maxfield
Dr. Berthold Lowenfeld
Pauline M. Moor
Dr. Natlie C. Barraga
Dr. Mae Davidow
Outstanding Practice
Sherry Raynor
Volunteer of the Year Award
Col. Mark T. Muller, U.S. Army (Ret.)

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Fund-Raising Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: Treasurer, Board of Directors

Chairman: Dr. John M. Crandell

Members: Henry Hedgecock
Susan Fraser-Perrotta
Gail Granados
Christopher Cook

Purpose: To recommend fund-raising policies to the Board of Directors;

To propose fund-raising activities;

To carry on active searches for individuals and organizations that are potential funding sources for NAPVI, developing strategies for gaining funds.

To supervise fund-raising activities by the Executive director.

To see that computerized listing of "Friends of NAPVI" contributors is maintained each year.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Affiliations Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1983

Reports To: President and Board of Directors

Chairman: Jeanie Flack

Members: Judith Stotland
Linda Katskee
Norma Lucas (alternate)

Purpose: To recommend policies and procedures for affiliation to the Board of Directors;

To review affiliation applications and recommend action by the Board of Directors;

To assign a member of the Board of Directors as the liaison to the affiliate, usually the representative of the region where located;

To obtain and monitor reports of affiliate activities and encourage affiliate activities;

To keep the Board of Directors informed of issues and concerns of affiliate groups.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Resource Lists Committee** (formerly "Lists of Lists")

Type: Ad Hoc

Established: 1984

Reports To: Board of Directors

Chairman: Kay McKnight

Members: Elaine Moses
Alana Zambone
Keitha Robinson

Purpose: To maintain lists of resources which will be useful to parents of visually impaired children, such as residential schools, summer camps, book lists, etc.;

To update lists and prepare lists as publications or hand-out materials as appropriate;

To review needs and inventories of lists and recommend additions or discontinuing of resource lists;

Move to Fund-Raising { To maintain lists of contributors, membership, projects, meetings, etc. which may be used for public relations and fund-raising activities.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Newsletter Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: President and Executive Director

Chairman: Mary Lou Wilkinson

Members: Keitha Robinson
John Crandell

Purpose: To publish a quarterly newsletter which supports the purposes of NAPVI and acts as the chief communication with the general membership;

To gather news and articles for publication;

To edit materials and prepare for printing;

To solicit advertising for the purpose of making the newsletter financially self-sustaining.

| Schedule: | Submission | Publication |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1st quarter | Jan 15 | Feb 15 |
| 2nd quarter | Apr 15 | May 15 |
| 3rd quarter | Jul 15 | Aug 15 |
| 4th quarter | Oct 15 | Nov 15 |

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Membership Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: Secretary and Board of Directors

Chairman: Norma Lucas

Members: Fay Corey
Joan Johnson
Tom Auletta
Gail Hedgecock

Purpose: To increase the membership of NAPVI;

To propose projects, policies, and programs which will attract and retain members of NAPVI;

To review and update membership brochures, applications and dues structures and propose changes when appropriate;

To recommend strategies for conducting membership drives, such as public service announcements, advertising, press releases, etc.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Program/Service Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: Vice President and Board of Directors

Chairman: Gail Granados

Members: Henry Hedgecock
Gale Hedgecock
Kate Aldrich
Eileen Hudson

Purpose: To plan, conduct and supervise a national biennial conference;

To coordinate presentations, exhibits and displays for programs of other organizations, such as AER, CEC, etc.;

To assist in planning NAPVI-sponsored regional events;

To propose national service projects to the Board of Directors;

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Publicity Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1980

Reports To: President and Board of Directors

Chairman: Keitha Robinson

Members: Jacqueline Carroll

Purpose: To seek opportunities for positive mass communication with NAPVI members, potential members and supporters which furthers support of NAPVI's goals as an organization, improves services to visually impaired children, increases support to families of visually impaired children and educates the general public on issues effecting the lives of families of visually impaired children;

To recommend to the board projects which enhance NAPVI's public image;

To develop publicity materials such as brochures, public service announcements and advertising that support NAPVI goals and projects;

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Research and Review Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1981

Reports To: Board of Directors

Chairman: Gale Hedgecock

Members: Joan Johnson
Kay McKnight

Purpose: To identify needs and recommend needed research related to support of families of visually impaired children;

To review inquiries and proposals from researchers requesting NAPVI's assistance in conducting research, prior to recommending whether or not NAPVI should participate;

To review and recommend materials for distribution by NAPVI with regard to quality, reliability and need;

To protect the privacy of members from frequent contact by researchers, vendors or other interested groups.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: Resolutions Committee

Type: Standing

Established: 1985

Reports To: Board of Directors

Chairman: Kate Aldrich

Members: Judith Stotland

Elaine Moses

Alana Zambone

Kay Ferrell

Purpose: To draft statements for approval by the Board of Directors which can be used publicly to reflect the organization's position, intent or actions;

To bring issues of importance to parents of the visually impaired to the attention of the Board of directors for discussion.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Scholarship Committee**

Type: Standing

Established: 1985

Reports To: Board of Directors/ Treasurer

Chairman: Henry Hedgecock

Members: Susan Fraser-Perrotta
Norma Lucas

Purpose: To develop criteria for the awarding of scholarships by
NAPVI;

To establish procedures for receiving scholarship
applications and awarding them;

To seek funds and recommend funding strategies for
scholarships.

Schedule: Ongoing

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Technical/Advisory Committee**

Type: Ad Hoc

Established: 1987

Reports To: President and Board of Directors

Chairman: Lee Robinson

Members: Alana Zambone
John Crandell
Kay Ferrell
Eileen Hudson
Judith Stotland
Kay McKnight

Purpose: To develop a description of the interests which should be represented by the members of the National Technical Advisory Board (NTAB) of NAPVI;

To develop suggested criteria to be considered when nominating NTAB members;

To develop a procedure for nominating, approving appointments and filling vacancies on the NTAB;

Schedule: To be completed by January 1, 1988.

COMMITTEE FUNCTION SHEET

Title: **Early Intervention**

Type:

Established: 1987

Reports To:

Chairman: Christopher Cook

Members: Lee Robinson

Tom Auletta

Kate Aldrich

Purpose:

Schedule:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

MANUAL OF OFFICE PROCEDURES

(ADOPTED NOVEMBER 5, 1983)

I. General Office Duties

A. Telephone

1. Answer telephone when in office; take and give messages as appropriate.
2. Engage telephone answering machine when out of office.
3. Return calls from messages left on machine as necessary; establish contact within 3 days.
4. Long-distance calls should be placed in the least expensive method available.

B. Supplies

1. Maintain adequate supply of office products at all times.
2. Replenish supplies with petty cash funds, following procedure I.D.
3. Maintain adequate supplies of current printed materials.
4. Maintain supply of collated new membership packets inserted in manila envelopes.
Contents of new membership packets:

Yellow NAPVI folder
Latest newsletter
Publication list
Order form
NAPVI factsheet
Membership brochure
Volunteer form
Latest workshop announcement if
applicable

Other Materials as deemed appropriate

C. File Maintenance

1. Maintain master list of all files on 3x5 or Rolodex cards.
2. Major file categories should include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Administrative--budget, expenses
 - b. Membership
 - c. Program-workshops, agenda
 - d. Board of Directors--correspondence, minutes
 - e. Operating--chronological file, orders, contracts, printing master
 - f. Correspondence
 - g. Resources
3. Chronological file: one tissue copy of all outgoing correspondence is placed in the chronological file.

D. Petty Cash

1. Maintain in locked cash box (maximum fund \$300.00).
2. When expense is incurred.
 - a. Obtain receipt
 - b. Complete petty cash slip
 - c. Staple receipt to petty cash slip
 - d. Place receipt and petty cash slip in cash box
3. To replenish fund,
 - a. Remove all slips from cash box
 - b. Total all slips
 - c. Send slips to NAPVI treasurer with

Check Request for total

4. Use of petty cash funds is limited to expenses incurred for postage, supplies, local transportation, and such other miscellaneous expenses which may from time to time be necessary, in accordance with office procedure I.E.

E. Payments

1. All expenses greater than \$100.00, except for newsletter (\$1,000.00), and postage, (\$200.00), must be authorized by the Board of Directors. (Newsletter and postage may vary within 10% of amount specified.)
 - a. Unexpected or new expenditures can be authorized by the NAPVI president or, in the alternative, the NAPVI treasurer.
 - b. Changes in budget line items must be voted on and approved by the Board of Directors by mail or telephone vote.
2. All purchases greater than \$250.00 must be accompanied by three written estimates or bids unless available from only one or two sources.
3. Receipts for expenses (other than meals and mileage) must be submitted.
4. Requests for travel reimbursement must be made on NAPVI (or other funding source) reimbursement forms, signed, and accompanied by receipts for travel, food, and lodging within 30 days of return and sent to the NAPVI treasurer. (Copies should be filed with NAPVI national office and retained by person making request.)
 - a. The treasurer submits the expense form to any outside funding source for reimbursement directly to NAPVI
 - b. Reimbursement should come from NAPVI or other funding source as soon as request is received.
5. Reimbursement checks to NAPVI agent for travel expenses or honoraria should be

endorsed and forwarded to NAPVI treasurer or other funding source as per instructions.

a. All honoraria for services performed on behalf of NAPVI are deposited in the NAPVI treasury as contributions to the organization.

i. Board members and agents can receive reimbursements for expenses only.

ii. NAPVI's federal identification number should be provided to organizations providing honoraria.

6. All expenses and receipts are processed through the treasurer.

a. Original forms with accompanying documentations must be sent to NAPVI treasurer or other funding sources as instructed.

7. Travel advances may be requested directly from NAPVI treasurer. Funds not expended should be returned with expense voucher to treasurer or other funding sources as per instruction.

8. Individuals maintain personal copy of all expenses submitted.

F. Ledger

1. National office enters in ledger on same day received:

a. Amount of all membership funds received

b. Amount of all funds received for orders

c. Amount of contributions

d. Amount of all bills or expense vouchers submitted to NAPVI treasurer for payment

G. Mail

1. Incoming

- a. Date stamp all incoming envelopes and contents of correspondence, membership applications, orders, etc., on day received.
- b. Paper-clip envelopes and contents together.
- c. Distribute into working files:
 - i. Memberships
 - ii. Orders
 - iii. Requests for information
 - iv. Requests requiring Board action
- d. Answer mail as appropriate
 - i. Membership applications--process at least weekly
 - ii. Orders--Process at least weekly
- e. After incoming mail has been fully processed, discard envelope.

2. Outgoing

- a. Maintain current United States Postal Service Rate Chart and postage scales at mail station in National Office
- b. Maintain supply of postage stamps
 - i. first class letter
 - ii. Other denominations--\$1, .50, .25, .13, .05, .01
- c. Determine lowest possible rate by weighing item and checking Rate Chart, within following guidelines:
 - i. All correspondence--first class
 - ii. Books--fourth class or library rate
 - iii. Other printed materials--third class, parcel post, or library rate
 - iv. Boxes--use United Parcel Service, Federal Express, Parcel

Post, as time permits.

- d. Bulk mail--for two hundred or more identical items mailed at one time
 - i. Renew bulk mail permit yearly
 - ii. Arrange address labels in zip code order before and after placing on envelopes or newsletters
 - iii. Label, sort, bundle, and bag in zip code order according to United States Postal Service specifications
 - iv. Complete bulk mailing form
 - v. Deliver to post office

II. Internal Communications

- A. Official actions of the organization must follow time lines and specifications of the NAPVI bylaws and Board actions.
- B. Reports, bylaws changes, Board resolutions, and correspondence (of a non-routine nature) may be drafted in the National office at the instruction of Board Members.
 - 1. Material is then submitted for approval to appropriate Board Member(s).
 - 2. Approved and/or revised material is returned to National office for retyping.
 - 3. Material distributed to Board members or other groups as needed.
 - 4. Copies may be sent to other individuals at the direction of the Board.
 - 5. Summaries of minutes, resolutions, etc., are prepared by National office for the next issue of Awareness and submitted to newsletter editor.
- C. Board of Directors minutes and list of work assignments are prepared by NAPVI secretary or designee and:
 - 1. Sent to National office
 - 2. Retyped, copied, and distributed to Board members by National office within two weeks of receipt.
 - 3. Copy filed for future reference.
 - 4. Second copy of minutes is distributed to Board thirty (30) days prior to annual meeting. Director will bring additional copies of minutes to NAPVI Board meetings.
- D. An Executive Director's circular must be distributed to the Board on at least a quarterly basis. The circular should contain progress notes, membership update, calendar of local events, and other communications of interest to the Board members.
- E. An annual report must be prepared by the

Executive Director by September 30th of each year and circulated to the Board. When accepted by the Board, a summary of that annual report will be distributed to the membership. The report should summarize membership standings, activities of the past year, fund-raising efforts and specify goals for the next fiscal year.

III. Correspondence

A. Whenever possible, handle correspondence by customized form letter.

1. Insert form letter and tissue carbon into typewriter.

2. Type in date, inside address, and salutation.

3. Make note of form letter type on tissue carbon when removed from typewriter.

4. Place tissue carbon of form letter in Chronological file.

B. If response cannot be handled by form letter, compose individual letter with tissue carbon.

1. Refer to Executive Director as necessary.

2. Check NAPVI policy statements with Executive Director and/or Board officers.

Form Letters Identified:

Welcome to new members

Welcome to renewals

Response to information request about NAPVI

Response to phone request

Response to orders accompanied by payment

Welcome to new affiliate members

Welcome to renewal affiliate members

IV. Processing Memberships

A. When membership application is received with payment:

1. Stamp date received on application
2. Endorse check with NAPVI deposit stamp
3. Place in file for later processing (process all accumulated applications at one time, but at least weekly).
4. Ascertain membership status (new or renewal).
5. Prepare membership card.
6. Prepare membership acknowledgement:
 - a. If renewal,
 - i. Pull renewal (or affiliate renewal) form letter
 - ii. Type date, inside address, and salutation on form letter
 - iii. Type address on envelope
 - iv. Mail form letter and membership card in envelope
 - b. If new member,
 - i. Pull welcome (or affiliate welcome) form letter
 - ii. Type date, inside address, and salutation on form letter
 - iii. Type label
 - iv. Insert form letter and membership card in new member packet
 - v. Affix label to packet and mail
7. Add to or update the membership file to include the following information:
 - a. Name of individual or family, last name first

- b. Name of company or agency (if applicable)
 - c. Street number or box number
 - d. City, state, and zip code
 - e. (Area code) telephone number
 - f. Birth year of child (if applicable)
 - g. Membership category
 - h. Affiliate status
 - j. Region
 - k. Year first joined
 - l. Current dues payment year
8. Stamp date when membership completely processed on application.
 9. Make copy of membership application and check for office file.
 10. File copy by membership category and year (e.g. "Membership Applications, 1983--parents").
 11. Mail original check and membership application to NAPVI treasurer by certified mail.
 - a. weekly mailings

B. Renewals

1. Prepare 1st renewal letter plus membership brochure for all current and previous members as of October 31st.
2. Mail renewal packet. December 1st of each year.
3. Mail follow-up letter and membership brochure to all delinquent members on February 1st.

Action needed:

Determine how membership files will be

maintained.

If hard copy,

1. Color code by membership category (yellow = family; blue = associate; white = agency, school or organization; salmon = inquiry from non member)
2. Flag by region (different color for each of six regions).

If computer,

1. Set up index to search by last name/state/membership category/child's birthdate year/dues paid/affiliate status.
2. Set up sort mechanism to sort in numerical zip code order.
3. If program parameters are limited, copy disk entirely and maintain different parameters on each.
4. Make back-up copy of all discs each time new information is entered.

V. Processing Orders

A. Orders received accompanied by payment:

1. Stamp order with date received.
2. Endorse check with NAPVI deposit stamp.
3. Prepare invoice showing method of payment and balance.
4. Address envelope or label
5. Package items with copies of invoice and mail
6. Stamp order with date processed.
7. Make copy of order and check; file under "orders processed 1983".
8. Send check and original order to NAPVI treasurer with copy of invoice.

B. Orders received not accompanied by payment:

1. Pull Form letter about prepaid orders.
2. Type date, inside address, and salutation on form letter.
3. Type inside address on envelope.
4. Pull new order form.
5. Affix original order to form letter and new order form.
6. Place all three items in envelope and mail.

C. Orders Accompanied by purchase order:

1. Prepare invoice (purchase order number; date; sold to; shipped to; quantity; list of materials; unit price; total price; balance due).
2. Address envelope or label
3. Package items with invoice and mail.
4. Attach two copies of invoice to original purchase order; file under "receipts"

pending".

5. When payment is received,
 - a. Endorse check with NAPVI deposit stamp
 - b. Stamp invoice or check stub with the date payment received.
 - c. Remove invoice/purchase order from "receipts pending" file.
 - d. Stamp all copies of invoice and purchase order "paid" and date.
 - e. Copy invoice and check on one piece of paper and file under "orders processed 1983".
 6. Send check, one copy of invoice and purchase order to NAPVI treasurer.
 7. If payment is not received within 30 days, detach and send reminder copy of invoice.
 8. If payment is not received within 60 days, photocopy remaining copy of invoice and send.
- D. Multiple copies of free materials: for order of multiple copies of free materials,
1. Date stamp order.
 2. Prepare invoice with "no charge" in "balance due" column.
 3. Address envelope or label
 4. Package items with two copies of invoice and mail.
 5. File original order plus remaining invoice copies in "orders processed" file.

VI. Contracts and Orders Made by NAPVI

- A. Before ordering or making a contract, consider needs and ascertain desired specifications. (Make a list of specifications so that comparison will be accurate e.g. printed, one side, black ink, punched, letter size, 200 copies.)
- B. Orders or contracts for equipment, or those over \$100.00 require approval from the NAPVI President or, in the alternative, the NAPVI treasurer, under Section I.E.1 of these procedures.
- C. Negotiate order or contract for supplies and services with individual, company and/or agency.
- D. Compose a letter of agreement containing the following information:
 1. Date of letter of agreement.
 2. Name of both the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc., and the agreeing party (the supplier).
 3. List of materials or services to be provided.
 4. Beginning and ending dates for services, or delivery date for material.
 5. Conditions and understandings.
 6. Clause stating that (one) all copies of letter are signed and (two) are received by NAPVI, a formal contract is in effect.
 7. Signature lines for both NAPVI president and supplier.
- E. Make three copies of letter.
 1. Send original plus two copies with authorized NAPVI signature(s) to supplier.
 2. File third copy of the letter in "contract for services or equipment".
- F. When copies are returned with signatures, file both under "contracts--payment pending".

G. When services are completed or materials delivered.

1. Remove two copies from "contracts--payment pending" file.
2. Send one copy of agreement with invoice or receipt to NAPVI treasurer.
3. File remaining copy under "contracts paid"

VII. Program Planning

- A. Negotiate dates, costs, and meeting site with local sponsors,
 - 1. Compose letter of agreement with facility management.
 - 2. Send copy of letter of agreement to local sponsors
 - 3. File copy of letter.
- B. Confirm dates of program with appropriate NAPVI Board members and local sponsors.
- C. Establish tentative program agenda and distribute to local sponsors.
- D. Contact speakers and make arrangements for expenses as needed.
 - 1. Determine contract.
 - 2. Follow-up with letter of agreement.
- E. At least eight weeks, but preferably longer, ahead of meeting date, prepare announcements:
 - 1. Newsletter.
 - 2. Other journals, posters and flyers.
 - 3. Program description and registration form for local or area mailing. Indicate close-out date.
- F. At least four weeks ahead,
 - 1. Prepare specific program and invitation for mailing by National office and/or local sponsors.
 - 2. Determine and arrange for audio-visual needs.
 - 3. Prepare audio-visuals, hand-out materials, displays, etc.
 - 4. Send name tags, folder, extra programs, and receipt books, to hotel or local sponsor.

- G. Two weeks ahead, check hotel and speaker arrangements.
- H. Executive Director arrives one day early to check hotel arrangements.
- I. Act as host to guest speaker(s).
- J. After the meeting, send thank-you letter to speakers and local sponsors and develop any appropriate follow-up correspondence.

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION:

Executive Director of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI)

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Demonstrated organizational, management, interpersonal, and supervisory skills in a variety of public and private settings.
2. Demonstrated ability to communicate in public speaking and in print.
3. Experience in advocacy for children and youth with blindness or visual impairment.
4. Parent of blind or visually impaired child desirable.

GENERAL DUTIES:

The Executive Director is the administrative agent for the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. He or she is responsible to the Board of Directors for the implementation of policies and programs approved by the Board, the ultimate purpose of which is to provide support information, and services which improve the general welfare of all parents of visually impaired children, regardless of where they reside, their age, or their degree of disability.

In the performance of his or her duties, the Executive Director maintains a close working relationship with the President, Treasurer, and other Board members, as well as committee chairpersons, in order to facilitate the projects and services of NAPVI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

A. Administrative duties:

1. Supervises and coordinates all office procedures in accordance with NAPVI's manual of office procedures.

2. With the approval of the Board, selects, employs, and supervises such personnel as are required to fulfill the purposes of NAPVI, including clerical, secretarial, volunteer, and professional persons.
3. Facilitates and attends all meetings of the Board
4. Provides the Board with such information it may require, including matters requiring policy clarification or revision, activities and trends of other organizations, progress reports, etc.
5. Institutes and maintains appropriate management controls for financial and personnel matters, including such records as may be required.
6. Prepares annual report
7. Prepares and distributes quaterly circular to Board.
8. Develops in conjunction with NAPVI treasurer annual operating budget for Board review.
9. Assumes such other administrative duties as may be assigned by the Board from time to time.

B. Program Duties:

1. Provides direction, coordination, and supervision to all projects and services of NAPVI following stated goals and policies.
2. Develops plans for further expansion or modification of NAPVI programs and services.
3. Coordinates planning of annual meeting, institutes, and workshops, as directed by the Board, and executes such agreements as are necessary.
4. Recruits local volunteers and coordinates their activities.
5. Maintains an up-to-date clearinghouse and system of information exchange on visual

impairment and makes referrals for services to other organizations, agencies, and parent groups.

C. Liaison Duties:

Along with appropriate Board members:

1. Promotes and maintains effective working relationships with officials, department heads, agency administrators, and other such personnel involved in direct services to visually impaired persons.
2. Serves as liaison and coordinates effective and smooth relationships among National and local groups of parents.

D. Public Relations:

1. Assumes leadership for increasing public awareness and understanding of the nature and problems of parents of visually impaired children, and growth through public speaking, preparation of special materials such as pamphlets; brochures; and reports; assisting in the publication and distribution of AWARENESS: and developing information or releases to newspaper, television, and other communication media.
2. Apprises NAPVI members and other citizens of recent program and legislative developments on the Federal, State, and local levels.
3. Communicates programs and policies of NAPVI to agencies and the lay groups through the same means indicated above.

E. Fund Raising Duties:

1. Coordinates and directs fund raising efforts.

F. Other Duties

1. Performs all other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Directors and/or Executive Committee.

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION:

Administrative Secretary/Office Manager, National Association For Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Ability to pursue duties independently
2. Demonstrated written, oral language, proofreading, and interpersonal skills.
3. Familiarity with common office equipment.
4. Two years' experience in office procedures.
5. Ability to type (60 wpm minimum).

GENERAL DUTIES:

Under the direction and supervision of the Executive Director, manages the NAPVI office to facilitate the programs and services of the organization.

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

A. Office Duties:

1. Receive and process membership applications, orders for materials, and requests for information, following NAPVI's Manual of Office Procedures.
2. Records financial transactions of the organization occurring in the office.
 - a. Maintains ledger of incoming funds and payments due.
 - b. Maintains petty cash income and expenditures.
3. Assists in preparation of reports, publicity materials, minutes, funding proposals, etc.
4. Responds to routine correspondence.

5. Assists in making travel and meeting arrangements.
6. Maintains filing system.
7. Prepares or supervises preparation of bulk mailings.
8. Responds to telephone requests for information.
9. Assumes such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Executive Director.



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

THE AFFILIATION PROCESS



SERVICES TO AFFILIATES

Through affiliation with NAPVI a local or state organization can receive additional services to those provided to individual members.

NAPVI will:

1. Provide a rebate on dues by the NAPVI/National office to benefit your affiliate.
(20% of national dues are returned to affiliates.)
2. Provide a method of sharing information on legislation and other alerts that may affect you child. For example: interpretation of the law.
3. Provide recognition and the strength that comes with affiliation with an established national group.
4. Provide an opportunity to nominate members and run for office at the national level.
5. Provide technical assistance to affiliates to help with specific areas of concern such as, but not limited to, workshop development, incorporation, fund raising, advocacy, consultation or other special projects.
6. Provide recognition of local group accomplishments and events through the newsletter, national meetings and other efforts.

In addition to the above services offered to affiliates, members will also receive our quarterly newsletter and be entitled to discounts on NAPVI publications.

NAPVI AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

All applications for affiliation will be reviewed by the Affiliation Committee of the NAPVI/National Board of Directors. (The Affiliation Committee will submit its recommendations to the national board, which will have final approval regarding whether or not to affiliate any local group. The recommendation for revoking any affiliate's charter will be made by the Affiliation Committee to the National Board which has final authority over accepting such recommendations.

The following constitute the procedures for making application to NAPVI as an affiliate. In those areas where NAPVI/National has individual members and has authorized the affiliation of a local group and such individual members are not members of the local group, NAPVI/National will:

1. Advise the local affiliate of the existence of such members to determine whether inclusion of such members in the local group is possible.

NAPVI AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

2. If inclusion in the local group of such direct members is possible, NAPVI/National will advise the direct member of the local affiliate and encourage the direct member to join the local affiliate. NAPVI/National will credit the local affiliate with 20 percent of the direct member's dues whether or not the direct member joins the local affiliate.
3. If inclusion in the local group of such direct member is not wanted by the local affiliate, credit for the 20 percent of the direct member's dues will not be given to the local affiliate. However, NAPVI will still advise the direct member of the existence of such affiliate and reason why membership in the local group is not possible.

NAPVI AFFILIATION REQUIREMENTS

The NAPVI is a non-profit organization of, by, and for parents and families of children and youth who have visual impairments.

Although membership is open to any community organizations, agencies and individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI, only members who are parents of visually impaired children have voting power and constitute the Board of Directors.

NAPVI goals and objectives are to:

Promote and provide information through workshops and publications which will help parents meet the special needs of their visually impaired child.

Promote the development of state and local organizations of, by, and for parents of visually impaired children.

Increase public awareness about the visually impaired so they are accepted by society.

Foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state and local agencies and organizations involved with the visually impaired.

The following requirements must be met to be considered for affiliation with NAPVI/National:

1. Membership must include a minimum of fifteen (15) persons. Any parents of visually impaired children and youth who constitute in part or in total the fifteen (15) person membership requirement of a NAPVI affiliation have individual voting power on NAPVI issues.
2. Fifty (50) percent or more of elected officers and board members must be parents of visually impaired children.
3. An application for affiliation must be submitted, which includes a set of bylaws that is consistent with NAPVI/National bylaws.

NAPVI AFFILIATION REQUIREMENTS

4. Submit \$5.00 per membership with a list of names, addresses, status (parent/non-parent of a visually impaired child) and notation of each member's participation in other organizations of and for the blind. (Membership is representative of an individual or family.) Dues are to be paid at the time of application and January 1st of each year thereafter. If affiliation is completed after November 1st, dues are applicable for the following year.
5. A current list of officers and members in the local affiliate accompanies your dues on January 1st of each year. The local affiliate will maintain proper membership records and NAPVI/National reserves the right to inspect these records.
6. NAPVI reserves the right to revoke the charter of any affiliate which either is in non-compliance with the above requirements or operates in a manner inconsistent with the overall policies and procedures of NAPVI/National.

BYLAWS FORMAT

Article 1

The name of the organization is _____.

It is located in _____.
(city, county, state.)

Article 2

_____ shall be a non-profit organization.
(name of group)

Article 3

Purposes of the organization shall be:

To promote and provide information through meetings which will help parents meet the special needs of their visually impaired child.

To increase public awareness about the visually impaired so they are accepted by society.

To foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state and local agencies and organizations involved with the visually impaired.

Article 4

The officers of the organization shall consist of: _____
(list primary officers, including president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer OR any combination of leaders who will best fulfill your group function)

Officers shall be elected to serve a term of _____,
(specify length of time
beginning _____ and expiring _____
(first day of office) (last day of office)

Fifty (50) percent of these duly elected officers shall be parents of visually impaired children.



- support
- information
- service

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

Name of Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Geographical area covered _____

(city, state, county, area, agency or school)

Bylaws (must be attached.) The bylaws must include name and address of organization; names, terms and status (parent/non-parent of visually impaired child) of officers and board of directors.

(If you do not have bylaws at the present, a sample format is included.)

Contact person: Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Are you tax exempt? _____ Yes? _____ No?

Are you incorporated? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, when? _____

date of incorporation

NAPVI reserves the right to revoke the charter of any affiliate which either is in non-compliance with the above requirements or operates in a manner inconsistent with the overall policies and procedures of NAPVI/National.

NAPVI and affiliates will not recommend specific trade names or one resource over another and will reserve the right of discretion in the listing of resources.

Affiliates cannot campaign for anyone or anything (other than officers of NAPVI) using the name of NAPVI!

Signature of President

The above authorized signature indicates the applicant affiliates full acceptance and compliance with the above policies and final approval for affiliation is subject to the approval of the national affiliation committee.

THE AFFILIATION PROCESS

SOME FACTS ABOUT NAPVI

NAPVI'S OFFICIAL ROSTER

AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

BENEFITS TO AFFILIATES

NAPVI AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

NAPVI AFFILIATION REQUIREMENTS

AFFILIATION REVOCATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING APPLICATION

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING "LIST OF OFFICERS" FORM

"LIST OF OFFICERS"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING "LIST OF MEMBERSHIP"

"LIST OF MEMBERSHIP"

INSTRUCTIONS - SAMPLE BYLAWS FORMAT

SAMPLE BYLAWS FORMAT

NAPVI/NATIONAL BYLAWS



- support
- information
- service

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SOME FACTS ABOUT NAPVI

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is the only national organization that strives to serve families of children of all ages and ranges of visual loss. It is a broadly-based, nonprofit organization whose membership includes parents, parent organizations, agencies and other persons with common objectives--support and service to the parents of visually impaired children. The number of families who may benefit from the services of NAPVI is estimated to be more than 50,000.

Parents who first learn of their child's visual impairment cope with their grief often alone and in isolation. Although professional support services are usually present, the "blindness system" is often viewed by parents as overwhelming and limited in dealing with the multiplicity of problems their handicapped child presents. Experience in working with visually handicapped children has shown that parental involvement early on in the process is a necessary prerequisite for success. The importance of family life and the development of positive parenting practices are essential.

In an effort to reach as many parents as possible, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) helped form NAPVI. An AFB survey conducted in 1978 determined that there were over 125 parent groups developing around the country, all concerned with the many needs of their visually impaired children. As a result of the efforts of an Ad Hoc Committee of Parents, it was determined that these groups felt a national organization was needed and NAPVI came into being.

In order to insure the success of this newly formed organization, the AFB provided NAPVI with a three-year grant of \$18,000 per year.

NAPVI was organized because, in the words of its first president Lee Robinson, "Parents must regard themselves as the long-lasting resource and the only persons who continually have the child's interests at heart throughout his/her lifetime; NAPVI is a means to help parents fulfill that function."

Parental needs which are met by NAPVI include the need:

for emotional support and relief from feelings of isolation felt when their child is blind or seriously impaired;

for information so that they can make better decisions about care, education and treatment for their children;

for training and assistance in establishing local, state or regional parent groups;

for assistance in understanding how to find and use resources that are available to them;

for united effort to acquire and maintain quality services for all blind and visually impaired children;

to communicate and share expertise and empathy which provides encouragement and help;

For communicating their expectations to federal, state and local service agencies in a constructive manner; and

to feel thier children are accepted as worthy individuals.

NAPVI provides a reliable source of support, information and service to families of children with all degrees of severe visual impairment and blindness who have these needs.



- support
- information
- service

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NAPVI'S OFFICIAL ROSTER

November 1, 1984

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|--------------|
| JACQUELINE CARROLL | President | 393 Broad Street Salamanca, NY 14779 | 716/945-2116 |
| ELAINE MOSES PURYEAR | Vice President | 5601 Driftwood Austin, TX 78731 | 512/345-7891 |
| | Secretary | | |
| HENRY HEDGECOCK | Treasurer | 1776 B Frick Avenue Charleston, SC 29404 | 803/552-3456 |
| DIANA CUTHBERTSON | Board Member | 21 Milford Street Boston, MA 02118 | 617/426-5567 |
| FAY COREY | Board Member | 508 Lloyd Street Pittsburgh, PA 15208 | 412/371-4484 |
| EILEEN HUDSON | Board Member | 2180 Linway Beloit, WI 53511 | 608/362-1380 |
| MARY LOU WILKINSON | Board Member | 500 Laughrun Drive Forrest City, AR 72335 | 501/633-2737 |
| JEANIE FLACK | Board Member | 1110 N. 75 East Orem, UT 84057 | 801/224-9337 |
| JUDITH STOTLAND | Board Member | 12642 Morrison St. N. Hollywood, CA 91607 | 818/763-1759 |
| GAIL GRANADOS | Board Member | 52 Spring Garden Avenue Norwich, CT 06360 | 203/887-4362 |
| LEE W. ROBINSON | *Executive Director | 5555 N. Lamar, H-109 Austin, TX 78751 | 512/459-6651 |

NAPVI's executive director, officers and members of the Board are all parents of a visually impaired child and serve in a voluntary capacity.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated (NAPVI) is a non-profit organization of, by, and for parents and families of children and youth who have visual impairments.

Although membership is open to any community organizations, agencies, and individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI, only members who are parents of visually impaired children have voting power and constitute the Board of Directors.

NAPVI goals and objectives are to:

Promote and provide information through workshops and publications which will help parents meet the special needs of their visually impaired child.

Promote the development of state and local organizations of, by, and for parents of visually impaired children.

Increase public awareness about the visually impaired so they are accepted by society.

Foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state and local agencies and organizations involved with the visually impaired.

BENEFITS TO AFFILIATES

Through affiliation with NAPVI a local or state organization can receive additional services to those provided to individual members.

NAPVI will:

1. Provide recognition and the strength that comes with affiliation with an established national group.
2. Provide a reduction on dues by the NAPVI/National office to benefit your affiliate. (Twenty (20) percent of national dues may be deducted by affiliates.)
3. Provide a method of sharing information on legislation and other alerts that may affect your child. For example: interpretation of the law.
4. Provide an opportunity to recruit members to run for office at the national level.

5. Provide the opportunity for each affiliate to send a delegate at affiliate expense to the annual NAPVI meeting. Delegate names must be submitted two weeks prior to the Board meeting to allow for meeting space and materials.
6. Provide technical assistance for affiliate development in specific areas of concern such as, but not limited to, workshop development, incorporation, fund raising, advocacy, forming a speaker's bureau, how to set up local referral service, consultation and other special projects.
7. Provide recognition of local group accomplishments and events through the newsletter, national meetings, and other efforts.
8. Provide access at cost to our bulk mailing rate.

In addition to the above services offered to affiliates, members will also receive our quarterly newsletter.

NAPVI AFFILIATION PROCEDURES

1. When interest in affiliation is identified, the potential affiliate will be assigned a NAPVI Board Member (usually a member of the Affiliation Committee) to assist with the affiliation process and answer all questions regarding procedures and benefits.
2. All applications for affiliation will be reviewed by the Affiliation Committee of the NAPVI/National Board of Directors.
3. The Affiliation Committee will submit its recommendations to the national board, which will have final approval regarding whether or not to affiliate any local group.
4. Upon approval of the NAPVI/National Board, an appointed NAPVI Board Member will act as liaison to the first year affiliate to assist with its development.
5. In those areas where NAPVI/National has individual members and has authorized the affiliation of a local group and such individual members are not members of the local group, NAPVI/National will:
 - A) Advise the local affiliate of the existence of such members to determine whether inclusion of such members in the local group is possible.

- B) If inclusion is possible, NAPVI/National will advise the direct member of the existence of the local affiliate and encourage the direct member to join the local affiliate.

NAPVI AFFILIATION REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be met to be considered for affiliation with NAPVI/National:

1. Affiliates must include a minimum of fifteen (15) memberships. Any parents of visually impaired children and youth who constitute in part or in total the fifteen (15) membership requirement of a NAPVI affiliate have individual voting power on NAPVI issues.
2. Fifty (50) percent or more of elected officers and board members must be parents of visually impaired children.
3. An application for affiliation must be submitted, which includes a set of bylaws that is consistent with NAPVI/National bylaws
4. Regular NAPVI membership is \$5.00 (exceptions covered in Article IV, Section 2(1)). Submit \$4.00 per membership (individual or family) to NAPVI/National. Associate membership is \$3.00; submit \$2.40 per associate membership together with a list of names, addresses, status (parent/non-parent of a visually impaired child) and notation of each member's participation in other organizations. Dues are to be paid at the time of application and January 1st of each year thereafter. If affiliation is completed after November 1st, dues are applicable for the following year.
5. First year affiliates will submit a quarterly activity and progress report to the Affiliation Committee for review of compliance with NAPVI standards, goals, and objectives.
6. Anything printed using NAPVI'S name and/or logo must be submitted to the national office for review and approval.
7. Affiliate status is maintained annually by submission of dues, a membership list and list of current officers on January 1st of each year to the NAPVI/National office.

AFFILIATION REVOCATION

The recommendation for revoking any affiliate's charter will be made by the Affiliation Committee to the National Board which has final authority over accepting such recommendations.

NAPVI reserves the right to revoke the charter of any affiliate which either is in non-compliance with the above requirements or operates in a manner inconsistent with the overall policies and procedures of NAPVI/National.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING APPLICATION

- Step 1: Read the materials in this packet and determine that your goals and objectives as well as your group's general purposes are similar to those of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. NAPVI welcomes any group which feels they can share in the task of providing support, information and service to parents who have visually impaired children.
- Step 2: Complete the "Affiliation Application" form.
- Carefully consider the section which asks you to describe the eligibility requirements for your group. Your eligibility requirements need not be complicated but should leave little doubt about who may be a member of your organization. Sample descriptions are given below.
- (Official Name) serves parents who have visually impaired children attending the (school or agency).
- (Official Name) includes parents who have visually impaired children living in (state).
- (Official Name) includes parents of visually impaired children and professionals who work with our children in the (description of cities, counties, regions included).
- Step 3: Complete the "List of Officers" form and determine if 50 percent or more of the officers and board are parents of visually impaired children.
- Step 4: Complete the "List of Membership" form, including all information requested for each member you list. List officers on this form even though they have been placed on the "List of Officers" form also.
- Step 5: Obtain a copy of your bylaws, including all amendments, if there are any.
- Step 6: Send "Application Form," "Bylaws," "List of Officers," and "List of Membership" to NAPVI's national office.
- Step 7: Upon written notification of approval as a First Year Affiliate from the national office, send in membership dues (\$4.00 for each family/parent and \$2.40 for each associate member). A single check for the total membership is preferred. If additional members have joined since the time of filing your application, update your membership list by adding new sheets listing only the members you are adding. Send separate payment for new members.

Step 8: RENEWAL: Membership is on a calendar-year basis. Affiliates must submit a "List of Officers" form and a "List of Membership" form which is current, and membership fees by January 15 of each new year. (If notice for first-year affiliate approval is received after November 1, dues will be applied to the next calendar year.)

PLEASE CALL OR WRITE IF YOU NEED ANY HELP IN
COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORMS OR FOR HELP IN
UNDERSTANDING THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

Name of Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State: _____

Telephone: () _____ Zip Code: _____

Describe the eligiblity requirements for your group.

Does the above named organization have a registered name?

Yes _____ No _____

Is the above named organization tax exempt?

Yes _____ NO _____

Is the above named organization incorporated?

Yes _____ NO _____

If "yes," give date of incorporation _____

Please give name of person to contact on matters pertaining to this application.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State _____

Telephone: () _____ Zip Code: _____

A copy of the organization's bylaws must accompany this application. The bylaws must include: name of organization, statement of purpose, list of officers, terms of office, number of directors and terms of office. (If you do not have a set of bylaws, the enclosed sample could be used as a guide. NAPVI will be happy to provide assistance if requested.)

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY.

NAPVI reserves the right to revoke the charter of any affiliate which either is in non-compliance with affiliation requirements or operates in a manner inconsistent with the overall policies and procedures of NAPVI/NATIONAL.

NAPVI and affiliates will not recommend specific trade names or one resource over another and will reserve the right of discretion in the listing of resources.

Affiliates cannot campaign for anyone or anything (other than officers of NAPVI) using the name of NAPVI!

Approval for affiliation is at the discretion of the Affiliation Committee of NAPVI/NATIONAL and approval of the national Board of Directors.

The signature below indicates the applicant's full acceptance and compliance with the policies and procedures for affiliation listed above and described in the required documents supplied with this application form.

Authorized Signature

Date

PLEASE ATTACH: "List of Officers"
"List of Membership"
"Bylaws"

MAIL TO: The National Association for Parents of the
Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI)
P.O. Box 180806
Austin, Texas 78718

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING
"LIST OF OFFICERS" FORM

COLUMN:

DIRECTIONS:

Title

List the title of the person.
For example, "president," vice president,
board member.

Term Ends:

Give the date when the present term
expires. For example, "June 1985."

Name:

List first and last names.

Address:

List the current mailing address. If
more space is needed, use the next line
in the address column.

Parent of V.H.:

Place a mark in the box indicating
whether or not the officer is the
parent of a visually impaired child.

Name of Affiliate:

Fill in the name of your group as it
appears on the application form.

Authorized Signature:

Usually, this will be the signature of
the president or secretary of the
organization.

Date:

The date should be the same as that
on the application form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING

"LIST OF MEMBERSHIP"

| <u>Column:</u> | <u>Directions:</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| Page Number: | Number each page in sequence. For example: 1,2,3... or 1 of 10, 2 of 10, 3 of 10, ...10 of 10. |
| Affiliate Name: | List the name of the affiliate as it appears on the application form or on your charter. |
| "For the Year" | January 1 - December 31, 19__. |
| Type: | To determine type of membership use the following codes: A - Parent or Family of a Visually Impaired Child. C - Professional or Other Person Interested. G - Grandparent. |
| New Member: | Mark this box if this is the first time this individual has been a member of your group or if he has never been a member of NAPVI. |
| Renewal: | Mark this box if the person has been listed as a member of your group before or has been a member of NAPVI. |
| Child's Birth Year: | List the year of birth of the oldest visually impaired child. Leave this box blank for all except parent/ family members. |
| Name: | This will be the name used with a mailing address. |
| Address: | Accurately list the address for mailing, including zip code. (Use the line below in the same column if more space is needed. |

[illegible]

SAMPLE BYLAWS FORMAT

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be _____
_____.

ARTICLE II

The purposes of this organization shall be:

1. to promote and provide information through meetings, correspondence, publications, etc. which will help parents of the visually impaired meet the special needs of their children;
2. to provide emotional support and relief from feelings of isolation;
3. to increase public awareness about the visually impaired so that visually impaired persons are accepted by society;
4. to foster communication and coordination of services among federal, state and local agencies and organizations involved with providing services to the visually impaired.
5. _____

ARTICLE III

The officers of this organization shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer. Other: _____
_____ fifty per cent (50%) of which must be parents of visually impaired children. The officers will serve a term of _____ beginning on _____.

ARTICLE IV

The organization shall have a Board of Directors, fifty per cent (50%) of which must be parents of visually impaired children. The Board shall consist of _____ members. serving a term of _____ beginning on _____.

ARTICLE V

This organization shall be a non-profit organization.

ARTICLE VI

This organization shall be an Affiliate of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated and ascribes to the general purposes and policies of the national association.

ARTICLE VII

If this organization, by unanimous consent of the membership, is dissolved, the assets of the organization shall be donated to a non-profit organization or agency which serves the visually impaired.

September 1, 1981-

THE ACTIVE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION
OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

By Lee W. Robinson

The work of the family provides an essential service to society. Transmittal of society's expectations, building of self esteem, and providing a safe learning environment during the years of maturation are some of the major responsibilities and functions of the family. When the family processes are disturbed or when parents cannot function at optimal levels, the offspring do not receive the needed benefits and society must invest more in the individual before a return can be expected. For example, if the child does not gain self esteem and uses antisocial means to acquire it, society may have to invest in counseling services, intervention, or a penal system to accomplish the function of the family and prevent further disruption.

Society must recognize the vital role played by family and particularly the role of parents. Society should recognize that there are economic benefits to family support systems. Society should be willing to prevent family dysfunction and sustain the role of the parents when circumstances are beyond their ability to cope by supporting additional resources when such help can ameliorate problems for the future. Catastrophic illness, lack of quality time due to economic stress, irresponsibility due to lack of education, and handicapping conditions are some of the circumstances which cause needs for additional support. Some needs of parents of visually handicapped children and the important role of parents in the educational process are discussed below.

No one plans or expects to become the parent of a visually handicapped child. Perhaps fear of being blind and the lack of information about blindness and visual impairment during childhood makes being the parent of a visually handicapped child more traumatic than having a child with some other impairment. Knowledge about how to nurture and educate such children is sadly lacking. Parents who are faced with the challenges of rearing visually handicapped or blind children must enter into a foreign world with little or no preparation in order to obtain educational benefits of equal quality to those available to children with normal sight.

The parents of visually handicapped children must obtain services and experiences which afford them the knowledge, understanding, and attitudes to exercise proficiently their responsibilities as the primary decision makers, caregivers, teachers, and advocates of their own children. Parents are the only long-term providers and advocates who do not have limitations on or conflicting interests in the child. It is only when parents are encouraged and motivated to seek comprehensive services that visually handicapped children and their families will overcome or compensate for the constraints arising from the particular handicapping conditions they face.

The role of parents frequently is viewed as separate from and subservient to that of professionals in the special education processes for handicapped children. The low incidence of visually impaired children and the lack of knowledge about appropriate education strategies on the part of parents, teachers, and administrators prevents parents from participating effectively in the normally used channels of input into the decision making, advocacy, and information processes. Parent/teacher organizations, local

school boards, and even special education policies favor and facilitate programs for normal children or large groups of handicapped children. The role of parents who have visually handicapped children takes on additional importance and responsibility and must take on more intensity to assure both quality of service and that parental involvement is maintained. Special efforts must be pursued by parents to create positive parent/teacher relations, to utilize administrative processes effectively, to maintain the self esteem of the child, and lastly to maintain their rightful position as parents.

The above requirements make it necessary for parents of visually handicapped children to function in different roles: information seeker, decision maker, teacher, care-giver, and advocate.

The role of information seeker requires parents to equip themselves emotionally so that they do not feel guilty about asking questions or vulnerable when participating in educational and administrative processes. Parents should develop strategies for gathering information which will give a broad base of information rather than single sources, e.g. what other programs have to offer, what other states are doing, and how other parents have handled this problem. Last of all, parents should evaluate the information which they have been given by standards published in appropriate fields.

The role of decision maker asks parents to use the information obtained in order to choose alternatives and take actions on behalf of their child. It is critical to first decide what is best for the child and his family, by using information from more than one valid and reliable source. After the best alternative has been selected, decision making moves from an internal to an external process. The parent must then strive to be a part of the

political process using his/her influence to acquire or change services and to support services that are appropriate with funding through tax dollars.

Parents are teachers of their children. They are perhaps the most important factors in acquiring socialization skills. In addition, parents of visually handicapped children teach crucial attitudes which influence self concept. They must avoid teaching pity and dependence but instead develop self confidence and a competitive spirit. With these attitudes they will enhance their own abilities to teach their handicapped child and also teach other parents and professionals about the needs and abilities of the visually handicapped.

The role of the care-giver requires the parent to do whatever is necessary to nurture the child. This includes, but goes beyond, providing the material things of medical care, food, clothing, and shelter, to include giving the child dignity, not looking for miracles, recognizing that the child is not helpless, making the child know that he is accepted and loved, and, in short, instilling those qualities which make us all human beings.

The last essential role for parents is that of advocate. It is best for parents to advocate as a friend of the professional. It is best to promote good teacher and school relations through considerate, meaningful participation from an information and service-oriented position. With such a viewpoint, parents can be the most powerful advocates for themselves, their children, and for the professionals who provide services to their children. After seeing to their own needs and the needs of their children, parents of visually handicapped children need to support one another and the parents of children with other handicaps. Each family must be consistent with its efforts to seek what is best for it. The family with a visually handicapped

child must find and provide for the unique needs of the child and not be deceived into accepting services for other handicapping conditions which do not meet their needs.

The various roles which parents have a responsibility to perform require energies which may already be stressed because of the emotional and extra physical effort imposed on their family. Supports which relieve some of the stress will be most conducive to helping them perform these roles more effectively. When parents can perform at optimal levels then their work toward society's expectation of them will be fulfilled, and society's expenditure in behalf of both the family and child will be lessened; in fact, a contribution will result.

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|--|
| To provide relief from feelings of isolation to families of visually impaired children | To expand communication between individual members, parent groups and board members | <p>8 Continue the quarterly publication of AWARENESS, increasing circulation to 1,500 members and 1,000 prospective members.</p> <p>8 Expand the staff of the newsletter to facilitate contribution of articles and management of sections</p> <p>8 Find volunteer group to process newsletter mail-out</p> <p>8 Increase telephone and written communications with local groups and individual members</p> <p>8 Provide mailings to each member consisting of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 political action letter - 2 renewal notices - acknowledgement of membership with a gift - 1 funding appeal | <p>\$4,800.00</p> <p>Three members to serve as the staff of newsletter</p> <p>\$1000.00</p> <p>Group of 10 volunteers</p> <p>10 hours per month telephone time for long distance service/central office - \$1,800.00</p> |
| To hold three area workshops for parents | <p>* Locate sites and dates</p> <p>Contract with speakers and facilities</p> <p>plan and advertise meeting</p> <p>Hold meeting</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>Development</p> | <p>\$160.00</p> <p>\$240.00</p> <p>\$160.00</p> <p>\$160.00</p> <p>\$6,000.00</p> <p>\$9000.00</p> <p>2,800.00</p> | |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| To provide information about care and treatment of visually impaired children. | To establish a User Resource Network To publish brochure about importance and sources of information on standards for services to the visually impaired | W ⁶ Develop standardized forms for equipment use. | Staff time |
| | | W ³ Continue to advertise User Network in AWARENESS | Staff time |
| | | W ⁶ Identify and train volunteers to operate User Network | Staff time |
| | | W ⁶ Consult with National Accreditation Council (NAC) and professional organizations (ALLIANCE) | Staff time |
| | | Develop text and layout for brochure | Staff time; Board member time |
| | | Print and distribute to membership (3,000 copies) | \$350.00 |
| | | Executive Director Development | \$300.00 78.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|--|---------------------------|
| To assist in establishing local and state parent groups | To develop six new local parent groups and four affiliate groups | Determine which residential schools and which large public school systems have parent groups | Board member time |
| | | Contact parents and solicit memberships as parent groups | Board member time \$1,400 |
| | | Encourage four strongest parent groups to affiliate | Board member time |
| | To conduct leadership training seminar for national board members and present affiliates | Determine content and scope of training | Staff time |
| | | Determine presenter(s) | Staff, Board time |
| | | Locate funding for training | Staff time |
| | | Select site and time | Staff time |
| | | Conduct training | Consultant time; \$1,500. |
| | | Record seminar to be used for basic written materials | Staff time |
| | To produce packet of affiliate materials | Design and prepare packets | Staff, Board time |
| | | Print and distribute to affiliates and those seeking information about affiliation | \$150. |
| | | Executive Director Development | 2000.00 \$606.00 |

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| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| To provide understanding of how to find and use resources | To provide lists of resources for parents | Develop list of parent groups | Consultant time; Staff, Board time |
| | | Develop list of recreation programs | |
| | | Develop list of sources of equipment | |
| | | Executive Director Development | |
| | | | \$1,800 |
| | | | \$1150.00 |
| | | | 350.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|--|--|
| To expend a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services | <p>✓ To be recognized as the national organization for parents of visually impaired children</p> <p><i>Need Leadership</i></p> | <p>Attend and be represented at national conferences (ALLIANCE, CEC, APH and state CEC meetings)</p> <p><i>Need National Leadership</i></p> <p>Obtain one large and three small convention display units</p> <p>Executive Director Development</p> | <p>\$2,500.</p> <p>\$2,000.</p> <p>\$2850.00</p> <p>882.00</p> <p><i>\$1500.00</i></p> |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|
| To communicate with and to provide encouragement to others | To develop a grandparents' group | <p>Provide a concept article and survey through AWARENESS</p> <p>Identify volunteers to operate grandparent group</p> <p>Develop a packet of information for grandparents</p> <p>Print and distribute materials</p> <p>Executive Director Development</p> | <p>Staff time</p> <p>Staff time \$1,200</p> <p>Staff, volunteer time</p> <p>\$300.</p> <p>\$1000.00</p> <p>300.00</p> |

Personal Funds

Donations

Volunteer hours

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|---|--------------------|
| To communicate needs of families of visually handicapped children to federal, state and local governments and agencies | To make need statements prepared by the Board known to appropriate bodies | Mail need statements prepared by the Board to appropriate bodies, as needed | \$100.00 |
| | Participate in political action activities on behalf of the handicapped, both positive and negative | Contribute to political action activities | \$500.00 |
| | | Executive Director Development | \$360.00 115.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|---------------------|
| To ensure that visually impaired children are accepted | <i>Done</i> To publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance. | Publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance in AWARENESS newsletter. | Staff, Board time |
| | <i>Done</i> Promote acceptance of blind adults as role models | Invite blind adults to participate in programs and other activities when appropriate | \$1,500.00 |
| | <i>Lifetime</i> Relationship | Executive Director Development | \$1000.00 300.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| To provide technical support and office services to the organization | <i>Need</i> To establish more formal Board procedures in order to comply with bylaws and administrative requirements | Hold one executive committee meeting | \$1,800.00 |
| | | Hold one board meeting | \$5,500.00 |
| | <i>Need</i> To establish committees with membership participation | <i>Preside, 2 without</i> <i>Preside, 1 with Community</i> Maintain chairmen, standing committees within the Board | Staff, Board time \$1,100 |
| | | Identify and appoint members for each standing committee from each region | |
| | | Establish other committees as needed | |
| | | Identify areas of expertise needed | Staff, Board time \$1000.00 |
| | <i>Need</i> To establish technical advisory council | Identify experts in each area needed | |
| | | Invite participation of experts | |
| | | Executive Director Development | \$6000.00 \$1850.00 |

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| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|--|
| To provide relief from feelings of isolation to families of visually impaired children | To expand communication between individual members, parent groups and Board members | <p>Continue the quarterly publication of AWARENESS, increasing the circulation to 2,300 members and 1,000 prospective members</p> <p>Increase telephone communication with members through watts line service</p> <p>Begin information and referral service, supported by telephone 800 service</p> <p>Provide mailings to each member consisting of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 political action letter - 2 renewal notices - 1 acknowledgement of renewal with gift - 1 funding appeal <p>Locate sites and dates</p> <p>Contract with speakers and facilities</p> <p>plan and advertise meeting</p> <p>Hold meeting</p> | <p>\$6,000.00</p> <p>20 hours month/central 10 hours month/board members 10 hours month/member access telephone long distance service</p> <p>\$2,000.00 10 hours month/staff time</p> <p>\$257.00</p> <p>\$257.00 \$750.00</p> <p>\$257.00</p> <p>\$2,000.00</p> |
| | To hold three area workshops for parents | | |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|---|------------------------|
| To provide information about care and treatment of visually impaired children | To publish and distribute Case Management File Folder to parents of visually impaired children | Consult with professionals in preschool education | Staff time |
| | | Survey forms used by school systems (residential and public) | Board time |
| | | Develop forms and format | Staff, board time |
| | | Print and distribute 500 copies | \$500.00 |
| | To publish and distribute information to parents about models of services with advantages and disadvantages listed | Consult with Council of Executives of Residential Schools for the Blind | Staff time |
| | | Consult with those programs providing itinerant, resource, teacher consultant, homebased, etc. services | Technical advisory tim |
| | | Survey existing literature | Staff, Board time |
| | | Write and format material | Staff, Board time |
| | | Print and distribute (500 copies) | \$1,000.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|--|------------------------|
| To assist in establish local and state parent groups | To develop eight new local parent groups and four affiliate groups | Determine which residential schools and large school systems have interest in establishing parent groups | Board member time |
| | | Contact parents and solicit memberships as parent groups | Board member time |
| | | Encourage four strongest parent groups to affiliate | Board member time |
| | To conduct leadership training for new board members plus 20 selected participants from throughout the country | Determine content and scope of training | Staff time |
| | | Determine presenter(s) | Staff, Board time |
| | | Locate funding for training | Staff time |
| | | Select site and time | Staff time |
| | | Conduct training | Staff time |
| | | Record seminar to be used for basic written materials | Consultant time; \$15, |
| | | | Staff time |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|--|--|
| To provide understanding of how to find and use resources | To provide lists of resources for parents | Develop list of scholarships offered annually | Staff, Board, Consultant time |
| | | Develop list of low vision services | |
| | | Develop list of preschool services | |
| | | Develop list of rehabilitation center programs | |
| | To update and/or revise Take Charge! and Library Guide to Resources for Teachers | Survey resources | Consultant time, \$500.00 Staff, Board time |
| | | Identify changes needed | |
| | | Rewrite and reformat as needed | |
| | | Print and distribute | \$1,000.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|------------------|
| To expend a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services | To be recognized as <u>the</u> organization for parents of visually impaired children | Attend and be represented at national conferences (ALLIANCE, CEC, APH, and state CEC meetings) | \$2,500.00 |
| | To establish communication with other groups of and for the handicapped | Establish gratis mailing list for AWARENESS | Staff time |
| | | Establish Board liaisons with these other organizations | Board time |

| Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Communicate with and provide encouragement to families | To develop a manual for "pilot parent" training | Identify scope and content of materials | Staff, Board time; Consultant time |
| | | Locate appropriate consultants | Staff time |
| | | Write and format materials | Consultant time, \$1,500.00 |
| | | Print materials | \$300.00 |
| | To develop manual for "sibling awareness" training | Identify scope and content of materials | Staff, Board time; Consultant time |
| | | Locate appropriate consultants | Staff time |
| | | Write and format materials | Consultant time, \$1,500.00 |
| | | Print materials | \$300.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|---|------------------|
| To communicate needs of families of visually handicapped children to federal, state, and local governments and agencies | To make need statements prepared by the Board known to appropriate bodies | Mail need statements prepared by the Board to appropriate bodies, as needed | \$100.00 |
| | To participate in political action activities on behalf of the handicapped, both positive and negative | Contribute to political action activities | \$500.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|---|--|
| To ensure that visually impaired children are accepted | <p>To publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance</p> <p>To promote acceptance of blind adults as role models</p> | <p>Publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance in AWARENESS newsletter</p> <p>Invite blind adults to participate in programs and other activities when appropriate</p> | <p>Staff, Board time</p> <p>\$1,500.00</p> |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| To provide technical support and office services to the organization | To establish more formal Board procedures in order to comply with bylaws and administrative requirements | Hold one executive committee meeting | \$1,800.00 |
| | To maintain committees with membership participation | Hold one Board meeting | \$5,500.00 |
| | To maintain technical advisory council | Maintain chairmen, standing committees within the Board | Staff, Board time |
| | | Identify and appoint members for each standing committee from each region | |
| | | Establish other committees as needed | |
| To maintain technical advisory council | To maintain technical advisory council | Identify areas of expertise needed | Staff, Board time |
| | | Identify experts in each area needed | |
| | | Invite participation of experts | |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| To provide relief from feelings of isolation to families of visually impaired children | To expand communication between individual members, parent groups and board members | Continue quarterly publication of AWARENESS, increasing the circulation to 3,000 members and 1,000 prospective members. | \$6,500.00 |
| | | Continue telephone communications with members through watts line service | \$2,500.00 |
| | | Continue information and referral service | 20 hours month/10 hours 20 hours |
| | | Begin leadership bulletin | \$75.00 |
| | | Provide mailing to each member consisting of | \$420.00 |
| | | - 1 political action letter | |
| | | - 2 renewal notices | |
| | | - 1 acknowledgement of membership with gift | \$1125.00 |
| | - 1 funding appeal | \$570.00 | |
| | To hold three area workshops for parents | Locate sites and dates | \$2,000.00 |
| Contract with speakers and facilities | | | |
| | Plan and advertise meeting | | |
| | Hold meeting | | |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|---|--|------------------|
| To provide information about care and treatment of visually impaired children | To publish and distribute information on eye diseases and treatment of these conditions in children | Consult with medical professionals | Staff time |
| | | Write material | Consultant time |
| | | Obtain professional review of material | Consultant time |
| | | Format and prepare for printing | \$1,000.00 |
| | | Print and distribute materials | \$1,000.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| To assist in establishing local and state parent groups | To develop six new local parent groups and four affiliate groups | Identify potential parent groups | Board member time |
| | | Contact parents and solicit memberships as parent groups | Board member time |
| | | Encourage four strongest groups to affiliate | Board member time |
| | To develop training materials based on leadership training seminars for distribution to the parent group officers and boards | Identify scope and content of training materials | Staff, Board time; Consultant time |
| | | Survey existing materials including editing of materials from past seminars | Staff time |
| | | Write and format materials | Staff, Board time |
| | | Produce, print and distribute materials (200 copies) | \$1,500.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| To provide understanding of how to find and use resources | To provide lists of resources for parents | Develop three lists as needed | Board, Staff time |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|-----------------------------|
| To expend a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services | To be recognized as the national organization for parents of visually impaired children | Attend and be represented at national conferences (ALLIANCE, CEC, APH and state CEC meetings) | \$2,500.00 |
| | To prepare manual for parents on rights and procedures | Acquire basic manuals from protection and advocacy groups | Staff time |
| | To prepare political action strategy handbook | Provide lists of protection and advocacy agencies | \$50.00 |
| | | Prepare book giving basic appeal procedures, form letters, etc. and a comparison chart by state of timelines for due process proceedings | \$300.00 |
| | | Develop content and scope of handbook | Staff, Board time |
| | | Write and format materials | Consultant time, \$1,000.00 |
| | | Print and distribute to member groups and affiliates | \$300.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| To communicate with and provide encouragement to others | To conduct national convention | Select time and place | Board time |
| | | Outline program | Board time |
| | | Identify and request funding | Staff, Board time |
| | | Determine speakers | Staff, Board time |
| | | Advertise event | Staff, Board time |
| | | Make convention arrangements | Staff Board time; |
| | | | \$ 15,000 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|---|--|---|------------------|
| To communicate needs of families of visually handicapped children to federal, state, and local governments and agencies | To make need statements prepared by the Board known to appropriate bodies | Mail need statements prepared by Board to appropriate bodies, as needed | \$100.00 |
| | To participate in political action activities on behalf of the handicapped, both positive and negative | Contribute to political action activities | |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| To ensure that visually impaired children are accepted | To publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance | To publish two articles related to attitudes and acceptance in AWARENESS newsletter | Staff, Board time |
| | To promote acceptance of blind adults as role models | Invite blind adults to participate in programs and other activities when appropriate | \$1,500.00 |

| Need Area | Objective | Activities | Resources Needed |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| To provide technical support and office services to the organization | To establish and maintain formal ongoing Board procedures in order to comply with bylaws and administrative requirements | Hold one executive committee meeting | \$1,800.00 |
| | To maintain committees with membership participation | Hold one Board meeting Maintain chairmen, standing committees within the Board | \$5,500.00 |
| | To maintain technical advisory council | Identify and appoint members for each standing committee from each region | Staff, Board time |
| | | Establish other committees as needed | |
| | | Identify areas of expertise needed | Staff, Board time |
| | To maintain technical advisory council | Identify experts in each area needed | |
| | | Invite participation of experts | |

BUDGET

EXPENSES

| | <u>1984-85</u> | <u>1985-86</u> | <u>1986-87</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Personnel | | | |
| Executive Director | \$ 23,660.00 | \$ 26,026.00 | \$ 28,628.00 |
| Secretary | 6,000.00 | 6,600.00 | 7,260.00 |
| Contracted Services | <u>7,281.00</u> | <u>8,009.00</u> | <u>8,810.00</u> |
| Sub Total | 36,941.00 | 40,635.00 | 44,698.00 |
| 2. Operations | | | |
| Facilities (rent) | 8,400.00 | 8,400.00 | 8,400.00 |
| Utilities | 1,800.00 | 1,980.00 | 2,178.00 |
| Telephone | 1,450.00 | 2,495.00 | 2,744.00 |
| Development | 5,022.00 | 5,524.00 | 6,076.00 |
| Printing | 300.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Postage | 1,500.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,500.00 |
| Travel | 1,700.00 | 1,870.00 | 2,057.00 |
| Equipment | <u>3,300.00</u> | <u>3,300.00</u> | <u>3,300.00</u> |
| Sub Total | 23,472.00 | 26,569.00 | 28,755.00 |
| 3. Program/Projects | | | |
| Area I | 10,320.00 | 11,521.00 | 21,245.00 |
| Area II | 350.00 | 1,500.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Area III | 3,778.00 | 15,000.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Area IV | 1,800.00 | 1,500.00 | -0- |
| Area V | 4,500.00 | 2,500.00 | 4,150.00 |
| Area VI | 1,500.00 | 6,600.00 | 15,000.00 |
| Area VII | 600.00 | 600.00 | 400.00 |
| Area VIII | 1,500.00 | <u>1,500.00</u> | 1,500.00 |
| Area IX | <u>9,460.00</u> | <u>6,800.00</u> | <u>6,800.00</u> |
| Sub Total | 33,808.00 | 47,521.00 | 52,595.00 |
| Grand Total | <u>\$98,221.00</u> | <u>\$114,725.00</u> | <u>\$126,048.00</u> |

Budget

INCOME

| | <u>1984-85</u> | <u>1985-86</u> | <u>1986-87</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dues | - | | |
| Class A Memberships | \$ 4,500.00 | \$ 7,375.00 | \$ 9,000.00 |
| Class B Memberships | 750.00 | 1,125.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Class C Memberships | 1,800.00 | 2,760.00 | 3,600.00 |
| Class E Memberships | 750.00 | 1,125.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Class F Memberships | <u>3,500.00</u> | <u>5,400.00</u> | <u>7,200.00</u> |
| Sub Total | 11,300.00 | 17,785.00 | 22,800.00 |
| Publication sales | 2,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 4,500.00 |
| Individual Contributions | 8,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 15,000.00 |
| Fees & Registrations | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 15,500.00 |
| Bequests | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| Business/Group Contributions | 500.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Grants/Contracts | | | |
| AFB | <u>22,000.00</u> | <u>-0-</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| Total Projected income | \$ 46,800.00 | \$ 36,785.00 | \$ 44,300.00 |
| Projected Development Needed | 51,421.00 | 77,940.00 | 81,748.00 |
| Grand Total | \$ 98,221.00 | \$ 114,725.00 | \$ 126,048.00 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| INCREASE AWARENESS CIRCULATION | PUBLICITY NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| 1-800 # | PUBLICITY | #1 |
| INFORMATION/REFERRAL | OFFICE | #1 |
| PUBLIC INFORMATION LETTER/MEMBERSHIP | MEMBERSHIP | #1 |
| RENEWAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT W/GIFT | MEMBERSHIP | #1 |
| (1) 1988 REGIONAL WORKSHOP | PROGRAM | #1 |
| 1989 NATIONAL CONFERENCE/PLAN | PROGRAM | #1 |
| AWARENESS CALENDAR/COLUMN/PUBLISH | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| CALENDAR/DISSEMINATE FROM OFFICE | NEWSLETTER PUBLICITY | #1 |

FISCAL 1988

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|
| SOCIAL COMM. AMONG CHILDREN/ASSESS | NEWSLETTER PROGRAM | |
| SOCIAL COMM. AMONG CHILDREN/SET UP PROGRAM | NEWSLETTER PROGRAM | |
| YOUTH ACTIVITIES AT '89 CONF./MTGS. | PROGRAM | #1 |
| LOCAL PEER SUPPORT/SET UP LISTS | AFFILIATION RESOURCE PUBLICITY | #1 |
| BOARD PART. AT OTHER WORKSHOPS | EXECUTIVE | #1 |
| SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS/IDENTIFY | RESOURCE | #1 |
| SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS/AWARENESS ART. | RESOURCE | #1 |
| EYE CONDITIONS BOOK/COMPLETE | KATE | #2 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|---|-------------------|--------|--|
| TAKE CHARGE!/REVISE | JOAN | #2 | |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/OBTAIN MODEM | EXECUTIVE | #2 | |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/SUBSCRIBE | EXECUTIVE | #2 | |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/ADVERT. NAPVI | EXECUTIVE | #2 | |
| MAINSTREAMING VI CHILD/PUBLISH | RESEARCH & REVIEW | #2 | |
| NURTURE EXISTING AFFILIATES/QUARTERLY | AFFILIATION BOARD | #3 | |
| NURTURE EXISTING AFFILIATES/BOARD HELP | BOARD | #3 | |
| HOW TO PACK 'EM IN/REVISE; ADD CHAPTER | RESEARCH & REVIEW | #3 | |
| CREATE LEADERSHIP TRAINING PKG./COLLECT | RESEARCH & REVIEW | #3 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|--|--|--------|
| NEW PARENT GROUPS/IDENTIFY--CONTACT | AFFILIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #3 |
| REACTIVATE PAST AFFILIATES/KEEP CONTACT | AFFILIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOARD | #3 |
| EDUCATE BOARD ABOUT RESOURCES/OTHER ORGS. | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #4 |
| EDUCATE BOARD ABOUT RESOURCES/AFB DIR. | ALANA | #4 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/IDENTIFY ISSUES | ALANA | #1 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/PASS RESOLUTION | RESOLUTION | #1 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/AWARENESS ARTICLE | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| THE NAT'L. ORG./ATTEND, EXHIBIT AT CONF. | PUBLICITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #5 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--|
| AWARENESS OF PL 99-457/AWARENESS ART. | NEWSLETTER ALANA | #5 | |
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/SURVEY | RESOURCE | #1 | |
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/IDENTIFY PROF. STANDARDS | RESOURCE/REVIEW | #1 | |
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/WRITE REPORT | RESOURCE/REVIEW | #1 | |
| CONDUCT NAT'L. CONF./SELECT TIME/ PLACE '89 | PROGRAM | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/OUTLINE '89 PROGRAM | PROGRAM | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/FUNDING FOR '89 | PROGRAM FUND RAISING | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/DETERMINE SPEAKERS | PROGRAM | #6 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|---------------------------|--------|
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/ADVERTISE EVENT '89 | PUBLICITY NEWSLETTER | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/COORDINATE GROUPS | | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/MAKE ARRANGEMENTS '89 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAT'L. CONFERENCE/PRESENT BRAILL WKSP | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAT'L. CONFERENCE/HIGHLIGHT JOB OPPORT. | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAT'L. CONFERENCE/PLAN SOCIAL/ENT. '89 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOLUTIONS/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER RESOLUTIONS | #7 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOL./MAIL TO AGENCYS | RESOLUTIONS PUBLICITY | #7 |
| ENCOURAGE MEMBER EXPRESSION/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #7 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|-----------------------|--------|
| PHONE TREE/AWARENESS DESCRIPTION | NEWSLETTER | |
| PHONE TREE/AFFILIATES ESTABLISH | AFFILIATE | #7 |
| PHONE TREE/MAINTAIN OFFICE LIST | OFFICE | #7 |
| PARENT PANEL/LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES | PUBLICITY RESOURCE | #7 |
| PARENT PANEL/SUMMARY OF ISSUES | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #7 |
| PARENT PANEL/OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD | EXECUTIVE | #7 |
| PARENT ARTICLES-OTHER JOURNALS/ GUIDELINES | PUBLICITY | #7 |
| OPHTHALMOLOGIST--NAPVI/LIST USA | EARLY INTERVENTION | #7 |
| OPHTHALMOLOGIST--NAPVI/MAIL BROCHURE | EARLY INTERVENTION | #7 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------|
| OPHTHALMOLOGIST--NAPVI/EXHIBIT AT MED. MTG. | PUBLICITY | #7 |
| OPHTHALMOLOGIST--BOARD ANSWER TO ENQUIRIES | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #7 |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #8 |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/OTHER JOURNALS | PUBLICITY | #8 |
| BLIND ADULT ROLE MODELS/LIST | RESOURCE | #8 |
| BLIND ADULT ROLE MODELS/INVITE PART. | PROGRAM | #8 |
| KIDS ON BLOCK/REVIEW | RESEARCH & REVIEW | #8 |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MTG. | EXECUTIVE | #9 |
| NAPVI WORK BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY (OFFICE) | #9 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|---|--|--------|--|
| NAPVI PROCEDURES BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 | |
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/MAINTAIN | PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 | |
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/Non-BOARD APPOINTEES | COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN | | |
| TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL/IDENTIFY AREAS | TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMM. | #9 | |
| TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL/IDENTIFY PEOPLE | TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMM. | #9 | |
| TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL/INVITE PARTIC. | TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMM. | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTRIBUTE ENDOWMENT FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|-------------------------|--------|
| FUNDING NAPVI/PLAN FUND RAISING | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| BECOME SELF-SUPPORTING | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| ADVERTISING/MAIL TO PROSPECTS | NEWSLETTER PUBLICITY | #9 |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL NOTE (2) | MEMBERSHIP | #9 |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/FUNDING APPEAL (1) | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/BOARD CONTEST | MEMBERSHIP | #9 |
| ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY/SINGERS SONG | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY/CALENDAR | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| BOARD TRAINING/LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR | PROGRAM | #9 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| INCREASE AWARENESS CIRCULATION | PUBLICITY NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| 1-800 # | PUBLICITY | #1 |
| INFORMATION/REFERRAL | OFFICE | #1 |
| PUBLIC INFO. LETTER/MEMBERSHIP | MEMBERSHIP | #1 |
| RENEWAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WITH GIFT | MEMBERSHIP | #1 |
| AWARENESS CALENDAR/COLUMN/PUBLISH | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| CALENDAR/DISSEMINATE FROM OFFICE | NEWSLETTER PUBLICITY | #1 |
| YOUTH ACTIVITIES AT '89 CONF./MTGS. | PROGRAM | #1 |
| LOCAL PEER SUPPORT/HOTLINE DOS-DON'TS | PUBLICITY AFFILIATION RESOURCE | #1 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------|--|
| LOCAL PEER SUPPORT/COMPILE INFO. | AFFILIATION RESOURCE PUBLICITY | #1 | |
| BOARD PART. AT OTHER WORKSHOPS | EXECUTIVE | #1 | |
| SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS/AWARENESS ART. | RESOURCE | #1 | |
| SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS/'89 WORKSHOPS | RESOURCE PROGRAM | #1 | |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/SUBSCRIBE | EXECUTIVE | #2 | |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/ADVERT. NAPVI | EXECUTIVE | #2 | |
| NAPVI INFO. TO NEONATAL ICUs/LIST | EARLY INTERVENTION | #2 | |
| NAPVI INFO. TO NEONATAL ICUs/SEND OUT | EARLY INTERVENTION | #2 | |
| NURTURE EXESTING AFFILIATES/QUARTERLY | AFFILIATE BOARD | #3 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|--|--|--------|
| NURTURE EXISTING AFFILS./BOARD HELP | BOARD | #3 |
| CREATE LEADERSHIP TRAINING PKG./EDIT | RESEARCH & REVIEW | #3 |
| NEW PARENT GROUPS/IDENTIFY--CONTACT | AFFILIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #3 |
| REACTIVATE PAST AFFILIATES/KEEP CONTACT | AFFILIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOARD | #3 |
| EDUCATE BOARD ABOUT RESOURCES/NEW THINGS | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #4 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/CREATE SPECIAL COMM. | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/PREPARE BROCHURE | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| THE NAT'L. ORG./ATTEND, EXHIBIT AT CONFERENCE | PUBLICITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #5 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|--|-------------------------|--------|--|
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/PUBLISH IN AWARENESS | RESOURCE/REVIEW | #1 | |
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/PUBLISH OTHER JOURNALS | RESOURCE/REVIEW | #1 | |
| QUALITY OF SERVICES/INFORM LEGISLATURES | RESOURCE/REVIEW | #1 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/FUNDING FOR '89 | PROGRAM FUND RAISING | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/ADVERTISE EVENT '89 | PUBLICITY NEWSLETTER | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/COORDINATE GROUPS | | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/MAKE ARRANGEMENTS '89 | PROGRAM | #6 | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/SELECT SITE '91 | PROGRAM | #6 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|--|---------------------------|--------|
| NATIONAL CONGERENCE/SELECT THEME '91 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/FUNDING FOR '91 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/ADVERTISE EVENT 89-92 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/CONCLUDE '89 ARRANGEMENTS | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOLUTIONS/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER RESOLUTIONS | #7 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOL./MAIL TO AGENCYS | RESOLUTIONS PUBLICITY | #7 |
| ENCOURAGE MEMBER EXPRESSION/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #7 |
| PARENT PANEL/LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES | PUBLICITY RESOURCE | #7 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|------------------------------------|--|--------|
| PARENT PANEL/OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD | EXECUTIVE | #7 |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #8 |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/OTHER JOURNALS | PUBLICITY | #8 |
| BLIND ADULT ROLE MODELS/LIST | RESOURCE | #8 |
| KIDS ON BLOCK/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #8 |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MTG. | EXECUTIVE | #9 |
| NAPVI WORK BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 |
| NAPVI PROCEDURES BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 |
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/MAINTAIN | PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|--|-------------------------|--------|--|
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/Non-BOARD APPOINTEES | COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTRIBUT ENDOWMENT FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTR. SCHOLARSHIP FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/PLAN FUND RAISING | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| FUNDING NAPVI/SUBMIT 4 GRANT--PROJECTS | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| BECOME SELF-SUPPORTING | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| ADVERTISING/MAIL TO PROSPECTS | NEWSLETTER PUBLICITY | #9 | |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL NOTE (2) | MEMBERSHIP | #9 | |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/FUNDING APPEAL (1) | FUND RAISING | #9 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|--|--------------|--------|--|
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/BOARD CONTEST | MEMBERSHIP | #9 | |
| ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY/CALENDAR | FUND RAISING | #9 | |
| ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY/NAPVI AMBASSADOR | FUND RAISING | #9 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|--|
| INCREASE AWARENESS CIRCULATION | PUBLICITY NEWSLETTER | #1 | |
| 1-800 # | PUBLICITY | #1 | |
| INFORMATION/REFERRAL | OFFICE | #1 | |
| PUBLIC INFO. LETTER/MEMBERSHIP | MEMBERSHIP | #1 | |
| RENEWAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT w/GIFT | MEMBERSHIP | #1 | |
| AWARENESS CALENDAR/COLUMN/PUBLISH | NEWSLETTER | #1 | |
| CALENDAR/DISSEMINATE FROM OFFICE | NEWSLETTER PUBLICITY | #1 | |
| LOCAL PEER SUPPORT/EVALUATE PROJ. | AFFILIATE RESOURCE PUBLICITY | #1 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------|
| BOARD PART. AT OTHER WORKSHOPS | EXECUTIVE | #1 |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/SUBSCRIBE | EXECUTIVE | #2 |
| ACCESS SPECIAL NET/ADVERT. NAPVI | EXECUTIVE | #2 |
| SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEMS/PUBLISH REPORT | | #2 |
| NURTURE EXISTING AFFILIATES/QUARTERLY | AFFILIATE BOARD | #3 |
| NURTURE EXISTING AFFILS./BOARD HELP | BOARD | #3 |
| CREATE LEADERSHIP TRAINING PKG./PRINT | RESEARCH & REVIEW OFFICE | #3 |
| NEW PARENT GROUPS/IDENTIFY--CONTACT | AFFILIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #3 |
| REACTIVATE PAST AFFILIATES/KEEP CONTACT | AFFILIATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOARD | #3 |

FISCAL 1990

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|---------------------------------|--------|
| EDUCATE BOARD ABOUT RESOURCES/AFB DIR. | ALANA | #4 |
| STANDARDS OF SERVICE/DISSEMINATE BROCH. | NEWSLETTER | #1 |
| LEG. HANDBOOK-APPEAL PROCED../ESTAB. COMM. | RESOURCE | #4 |
| LEG. HANDBOOK-APPEAL PROCED../EDIT | REVIEW | #4 |
| LEG. HANDBOOK-APPEAL PROCED../PRINT | LEGISLATIVE | #4 |
| THE NAT'L. ORG./ATTEND, EXHIBIT AT CONF. | PUBLICITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | #5 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/FUNDING FOR '91 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/ADVERTISE EVENT 89-92 | PROGRAM | #6 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|---------------------------|--------|
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/OUTLINE '91 PROGRAM | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE/DETERMINE SPEAKERS '91 | PROGRAM | #6 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOLUTIONS/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER RESOLUTIONS | #7 |
| NAPVI POLICIES/RESOL./MAIL TO AGENCYS | RESOLUTIONS PUBLICITY | #7 |
| ENCOURAGE MEMBER EXPRESSION/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #7 |
| PARENT PANEL/LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES | PUBLICITY RESOURCE | #7 |
| PARENT ARTICLES-OTHER JOURNALS/ GUIDELINES | PUBLICITY | #7 |
| IMPACT LOCAL GOVT./CONTACT MEMBERS | LEGISLATIVE | #7 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------|--|
| IMPACT LOCAL GOVT./EDIT | LEGISLATIVE | #7 | |
| IMPACT LOCAL GOVT./PRINT | LEGISLATIVE | #7 | |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/AWARENESS | NEWSLETTER | #8 | |
| ACCEPTANCE ARTICLES/OTHER JOURNALS | PUBLICITY | #8 | |
| BLIND ADULT ROLE MODELS/PARENTING | NEWSLETTER | #8 | |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MTG. | EXECUTIVE | #9 | |
| NAPVI WORK BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 | |
| NAPVI PROCEDURES BOOK/MAINTAIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 | |
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/MAINTAIN | PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SECRETARY | #9 | |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # |
|---|--------------------|--------|
| NAPVI COMMITTEES/Non-BOARD APPOINTEES | COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN | #9 |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTRIBUTE ENDOWMENT FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| FUNDING NAPVI/CONTRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| FUNDING NAPVI/REVIEW STATUS 4 GRANTS | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| FUNDING NAPVI/SUBMIT 4 NEW GRANTS | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| BECOME SELF-SUPPORTING | FUND RAISING | #9 |
| ADVERTISING/UPDATE LISTS | RESOURCE | #9 |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL NOTE (2) | MEMBERSHIP | #9 |
| INCREASE MEMBERSHIP/FUNDING APPEAL (1) | FUND RAISING | #9 |

| ACTIVITY/IMPLEMENTATION | COMMITTEE(S) | GOAL # | |
|--|--------------------|--------|--|
| BOARD TRAINING/ACCESSING NEONATAL ICUS | EARLY INTERVENTION | #9 | |

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lee Robinson

FROM: Shaun P. O'Brien

RE: Foundation Proposals

We are now processing foundation proposals for NAPVI and will continue to do so at the rate of approximately four (4) per week through November 15th. These proposals are being sent out for consideration at December board meetings. Beginning the 1st of December we will be processing proposals for consideration at the first quarterly meeting of foundations in 1985.

The initial criteria being used for foundation qualification is as follows;

1. Foundations located in the "sun belt". We are starting in Texas and working our way out. The reason for this is that foundations located in the southwest are in a much better financial condition than those in any other part of the country.
2. Foundations that have shown a five year history of supporting projects involving the blind or handicapped.
3. Foundations whose boards have a majority of female members. The proposal appeal will have a greater affect on a woman than a man.
4. Foundations whose assets are in excess of three million dollars.

Please find attached a list of foundations who have received our proposals.

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED AS OF 11/1/84

| FOUNDATION | AMOUNT | PURPOSE |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Allbritton Houston | \$9,800 | Case Management |
| Brochstein Houston | \$9,800 | " " |
| Beal Midland | \$9,800 | " " |
| Bass Fort Worth | \$9,800 | " " |
| Butt Corpus Christi | \$4,200 | Communications |
| Chilton Dallas | \$4,200 | " |
| Davidson Fort Worth | \$4,200 | " |
| Dougherty Beeville | \$4,200 | " |
| Ellwood Houston | \$9,800 | Case Management |
| Fair Tyler | \$9,800 | " " |
| Farish Houston | \$4,200 | Communications |
| Fish Houston | \$4,200 | " |



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

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Beloit, Wisconsin
Laura Vidal
Queens Village, New York
Mary Lou Wilkinson
Forrest City, Arkansas
Judi Stotland
Los Angeles, California

Executive Director

Lee W. Robinson
Austin, Texas

October 31, 1984

Mr. Harry W. Bass, Jr.
Trustee - Bass Foundation
1150 Mercantile Dallas Bldg.
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mr. Bass,

I have taken the liberty to enclose a proposal for funding from the National Association for the Parents of the Visually Impaired.

I have attached the necessary supportive material but if additional information is needed please let me know.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Lee Robinson
Executive Director

Encl.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (NAPVI)

HISTORY

Sam is an eleven year old computer whiz, friendly and gregarious; Jennifer is an eleven year old struggling to control her emotions and not let things upset her so much; Josh is an eleven year old confined to a wheelchair, non-verbal in a world of talk and laughter.

These children all seem different but they have one thing in common - all of them have great trouble seeing. Their parents stared with horror into the faces of medical doctors who told them "Your child doesn't see." All of them have parents who overcame the shock, anger and depression enough to say "I've passed my crisis; now I want to help other parents realize that having a blind child isn't the end of the world."

This "I want to help" attitude brought about the formation in 1980 of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired. Fifteen parents from all over the United States sat around a table in St. Louis and recounted their problems coping with having a blind child in their families, their struggle to overcome feelings of isolation and depression, their desires to reach out to others going through the same crisis.

Forming such a group was not an easy task. No central list entitled "Parents of Blind Children" existed. Therefore, word of mouth communication, largely from caring professional teachers and medical personnel, was the only way NAPVI could reach other parents with its message. That message of hope and concern has spread. From that initial group of fifteen the organization has grown to over twelve hundred in just four short years.

NEED

No one is really prepared to be a parent. However, from watching our own parents, taking a few health courses in school and obeying our parenting instincts, we have a general notion of how to provide the care our children need. Most people are generally equipped to be good parents to "normal" children - but what if a new baby is blind?

Parents of blind and visually impaired children, many of them young "first-time" parents, find themselves faced with situations totally unfamiliar to them - and find very little help learning to "parent" a blind baby. They are left to find critical answers for themselves.

For example, when a mother approaches a normal baby, the baby sees her and his eyes brighten immediately; there is a smile, arms and legs move as an invitation to be picked up. The mother's reward comes during the contented cooing and snuggling which follows.

How different for a mother who wants the same response from her blind baby - unless she is aware of a different set of signals from the baby. When the mother of a blind baby approaches, the baby is likely to quiet (listening). If the mother picks the baby up without much further contact, the baby is likely to stiffen and cry. Not much reward there. Next time the mother will think twice about making her baby cry by disturbing his quiet attitude. Yet, leaving the baby by himself without hugs and talking will slow his development unnecessarily.

With instructions, parents can learn the special signals blind children make to indicate they want love and attention.

NAPVI can provide this and many other aids for parents. The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired is the only national organization that strives to serve families of children of all ages and ranges of visual loss. It is a broadly based, non profit organization whose membership includes parents, parent organizations, agencies and others with common objectives - support and services to parents of visually impaired children.

Since 1980 NAPVI has been assisted financially by the American Foundation for the Blind. NAPVI continues to receive this annual assistance but must now reach out for additional funding in order to improve its services to the parents.

We ask you to help us reach out.

TARGETED PROJECT

The first question asked by parents when told that their newborn is visually impaired is, "where can we get help?" NAPVI would like to publish and distribute a "Case Management File" that would provide information about care and treatment of visually impaired children. The procedure to establish this "file" is as follows;

- A. Consult with professionals in preschool education.
- B. Obtain information about models of services with advantages and disadvantages.
- C. Consult with Council of Executives of Residential Schools for the blind.
- D. Consult with those programs providing itinerant, resource, teacher consultant, homebased, etc. services.
- E. Survey existing literature.
- F. Write and format material.
- G. Publish and distribute.

The projected initial cost for this effort would be \$9,800. The annual updating cost would be minimal and could be handled by NAPVI.

REQUEST

The National Association for the Parents of the Visually Impaired respectfully request that the Bass Foundation give consideration to making a grant in the amount of \$9,800 to fund the publication of the "Case Management File".

TARGETED PROJECT

Far too frequently the parents of the visually impaired have a feeling of isolation. They do not know any other parents of visually impaired and do not know where to turn. Expanded communications between individuals, parent groups, medical professionals, and others must be implemented. Presently NAPVI published a quarterly newsletter, AWARENESS, that is sent to all members, parent groups and medical professional. However, to alleviate this feeling of isolation we must provide instant communication through the use of an "800" number. When parents have problems or concerns they need immediate answers.

The cost to implement this project would be \$4,200 per year. This would pay for ten hours of "800" use per month and staff time to cover the calls during business hours.

REQUEST

The National Association for the Parents of the Visually Impaired respectfully request that the James R. Dougherty, Jr. Foundation give consideration to making a grant in the amount of \$4,200 to fund this project for one year.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR PARENTS
OF
THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

I would like to thank Dr. Robinson for inviting me here today and I would like to commend him and you, the Board of Directors, for having the foresight to seek professional assistance at this time in the life of your organization. Unfortunately, we in the business find that many non-profit organizations wait too long before they seek help. They wait till the cupboard is bare and then usually it is too late to help.

Your organization, on the other hand, is solvent and viable. You have survived your infancy and are almost over the crawling stage. We hope in the near future that working together we can begin to walk together.

You have been fortunate since your inception to have received support from the American Foundation for the Blind. This support has enabled you to put into action many programs that have been and will continue to be very beneficial. You also have a commitment of support for two more years from the Foundation. You have, with their help, established your own identity and track record.

The continuing support from the American Foundation for the Blind, while being beneficial, has also, to some extent stymied your growth. You have been lulled into a false sense of security and have not been forced to take the "bull by the horns" and go out and raise funds. Also by establishing a pattern of financial support the American Foundation has also established a pattern of control over your organization.

We feel the time has come to gradually cut these apron strings and set out on your own. The following proposal will allow you to accomplish this.

DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

As mentioned earlier your organization has two more years of additional funding from the American Foundation for the Blind. Therefore, we are not under the gun to raise funds and thus the cost of raising funds will be reduced.

In order to successfully raise funds we must first know how much is needed and what it will be used for. You will find attached the projected budget from fiscal year '83-'84 as submitted by Dr. Robinson and amended by my firm.

This budget is somewhat larger than this years' but it is still on the conservative side. You will note that it does include a salary for a full time secretary but not an executive director. I feel it is imperative that in the near future an executive director be hired. However, before this happens the programs of the organization must be expanded so that the budget is not too heavy with salaries. ^{← balance →}

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

In order to raise funds you must spend money. This money must come from your present operating budget. This does present a problem in that the proposed budget is only partially funded. Monies will have to be spent out of the '83-'84 budget but it is our belief that these funds can be replaced before they impact any program. In order to accomplish this we propose the following:

A. Direct Mail Appeal to Present Membership

In fund raising you go to your easiest source first.
In your case, this would be your present membership.
The appeal would be conducted as follows:

1. Letter #1 - (August 15, 1983)

This letter would provide an overview of the organization, its plans for the future and how this could be accomplished with financial assistance from the members. We would seek donations from the ten to fifty dollar range.

2. Letter #2 - (Sept. 12th)

This letter would go out to all who had not responded to letter #1. It would re-emphasize the need.

3. Letter #3 - (October 3rd)

Similar format as #2.

- 106
4. Letter #4 - (October 24th)

5. Letter #5 - (November 14th)

After the results of the fifth mailing are in, a final report letter will be sent to all members. This letter will give the results of the campaign and also mention year-end tax write-offs.

B. Cost of Direct Mail Appeal

| | | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|
| Postage and Printing | \$1,160.00 | 1600 4000 |
| Consulting Fee | \$2,800.00 | |
| Total Cost | \$3,960.00 | |

C. Projected Revenues

Based on national statistics for an "in house" direct mail appeal we project that a minimum of \$17,000 can be raised.

Short?

D. Actual Cost of Raising Funds

Based on the cost versus return, the actual cost for raising funds would be 23%. The current national average is 27%. This cost factor will be greatly reduced when we enter Phase II of the development plan.

↳ Germany - project by project

Summation

I will not get into Phase II at this time as I feel it would be necessary to get together at the end of this phase and review our progress and set priorities. Phase II however, would be the solicitation of Foundations, corporations and individuals.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

1983 - 84 BUDGET

Personnel

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Secretary (salary with benefits) | \$14,000.00 |
|----------------------------------|-------------|

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Office rental (500 square feet @ .60) | 3,600.00 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Utilities | 2,400.00 |
|-----------|----------|

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Telephone | 1,400.00 |
|-----------|----------|

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Postage | 1,500.00 |
|---------|----------|

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Printing | 2,800.00 |
|----------|----------|

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Conferences and Meetings | 12,000.00 |
|--------------------------|-----------|

(1 annual board meeting, 3 workshops
6 conferences)

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Newsletter | 4,000.00 |
|------------|----------|

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Development | 5,000.00 |
|-------------|----------|

I
2,800
1,200
4,000

Equipment

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Typewriter | 1,200.00 |
|------------|----------|

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Microcomputer | 6,000.00 |
|---------------|----------|

(with software for word processing,
addressing and bookkeeping)

\$53,900.00

By the way, the total

have (what amount) can be spent of further & more...

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PHASE I DEVELOPING CONTRIBUTORS AND PROSPECTS

- A. Locate resources and prospects from within the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc.
 - 1. Write letters to the baord explaining the over-all plan and asking for contributions.
 - 2. Write a letter to membership to ask for a list of prospects; the letter should include a list of needs.
 - a. wealthy prospects
 - b. companies who might contribute either monies or materials
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
- B. Locate a National Fund Raising Committee
 - 1. Make it a one-year commitment
 - 2. Duties of committee
 - a. Help with publicity
 - b. Contact special prospects
 - c. Make appearance at benefits or special events (speakers)
- C. Develop Solicitor Kit which contains
 - 1. Outline of Purpose
 - 2. Pledge Categories list
 - a. Capital Campaign
 - b. Annual Campaign
 - 3. Letter from President
 - 4. Pledge card or letter
 - 5. Letter of Tax Exempt Status
 - 6. Sample letters
 - 7. Budget Costs

- D. Establish a timetable and strategy for contacting prospects.

PHASE II: MATCHING PROSPECTS TO SOLICITORS

- A. Match according to the following considerations:
 - 1. Location
 - 2. Level of pledge expected
 - 3. Ability to personalize (personal contact, telephone, etc)
 - 4. Recognition required and follow-up
- B. Divide prospects with Capital and Annual
- C. Assignment with instructions and background information by telephone to solicitors
- D. Establish Campaign goals
 - 1. Annual Campaign \$35.000
 - 2. Capital \$1,500,000.

PHASE III: CAMPAIGN

- A. Advance pledge prospects
- B. Major pledge prospects
- C. Special pledge prospects
- D. General pledge prospects

PHASE IV:

- A. Make certain of recognition
- B. Receipt
- C. Letter of Appreciation

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

GIFT TABLE

| Number of Gifts | Amount | Class Total | Running Total |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| 1 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| 2 | 75,000 | 150,000 | 300,000 |
| 6 | 37,500 | 225,000 | 525,000 |
| 8 | 18,750 | 150,000 | 675,000 |
| 12 | 9,375 | 112,500 | 787,500 |
| 15 | 5,625 | 81,375 | 868,875 |
| 40 | 3,375 | 135,000 | 1,003,875 |
| 100 | 1,685 | 168,500 | 1,172,375 |
| 325 | 337 | 109,525 | 1,281,900 |
| 600 | under 337 | 151,000 | 1,433,700 |

Average: \$252.

Prospects Required: 1,110

LOCAL FUND RAISING

With local organizations there may be a number of reasons for holding a fund-raising event. Additional considerations about whether to have a fund-raising event and for judging the success of the event might include the following ideas:

1. Was the event enjoyable to all who participated?
2. Were you able to develop a feeling of unity in the organization?
3. Was volunteer recruitment enhanced by the activities?
4. Did you gain any new members?
5. Did you gain good publicity from the event?
6. Was the purpose of your organization better known as a result of the fund-raising activity?
7. Did you demonstrate that you want to be self-sufficient?
8. Did you earn any money?

In addition to these considerations, you need to take steps to assure that external factors do not interfere with success. The key is to choose a suitable event in the first place. Decide if the event is appropriate in relation to the following factors:

1. How much money do you need?
2. What are your resources?
3. Can you afford to spend money to make money?
4. What has the organization tried before?
5. What has worked in your community?
6. What is the nature of the market?
7. What is the competition?
8. Is this the best time for the event?
9. What is the 'in' thing this year?
10. Does this event fit in with long-range plans?
11. Can you use other organizations to help to meet your goals?

CONSIDERATIONS IN FUND RAISING FOLLOW-UP

It is essential that receipting, recording, reporting and acknowledging contributions take place immediately after each donation.

1. Receiving funds (cash, checks, securities and so on) and recording the pertinent information, including provisions for maintaining confidentiality (if requested), accurate names, titles, addresses, dates, etc.
2. Transfer of funds for deposit. (Use registered mails or other suitable means to assure record of deposit.)
3. Preparing and distributing receipts and/or acknowledgements, including personal letters, awards, plaques, etc.
4. Recording, summarizing and disseminating pertinent information about receipts for internal use; for example, be sure that appropriate staff know of any restricted uses for the funds or that the donation is to remain anonymous.
5. Reporting pertinent information about non-confidential contributions to staff so that it can be distributed to other potential donors.
6. Reporting donations so that follow-up pledges and/or contacts can be made for future fund-raising activities.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES CHECKLIST:

Public Agencies

- ☐ 40 State Department of Education ✓
- ☐ 41 Public Health Department
- ☐ 42 Welfare Department
- ☐ 43 Children's Services Division
- ☐ 44 Juvenile Department
- ☐ 45 Crippled Children's Division
- ☐ 46 Probation Office
- ☐ 47 Mental Health Clinics (Service Coord.,
Developmental Disabilities)
- ☐ 48 Park and REcreation Department
- ☐ 49 School Board (s)
- ☐ 50 Vocational Rehabilitation
- ☐ 51 Intermediate Education Districts
- ☐ 52 Councils of Government
- ☐ 53 Social Security
- ☐ 54 Fire Department
- ☐ 55 Mail Carriers
- ☐ 56 Police Department

Social and Civic Groups

- ☐ 57 Senior Citizens Groups
- ☐ 58 Elks
- ☐ 59 Lions
- ☐ 60 Moose
- ☐ 61 Soroptimists
- ☐ 62 Masons
- ☐ 63 International Order of Odd Fellows
- ☐ 64 Active 20-30 Clubs
- ☐ 65 Knights of Columbus
- ☐ 66 Political Clubs
- ☐ 67 Area Alumni Clubs
- ☐ 68 Juvenile athletic and social clubs
- ☐ 69 Jaycees
- ☐ 70 Boy and Girl Scouts
- ☐ 71 YM-YWCA
- ☐ 72 Rotary
- ☐ 73 Kiwanis
- ☐ 74 Area Women's Clubs
- ☐ 75 Optimists
- ☐ 76 League of Women Voters
- ☐ 77 Eagles
- ☐ 78 Altrusa
- ☐ 79 Alpha Beta Kappa
- ☐ 80 Other _____

27 Telephone Pioneers

Private Organizations

- ☐ 33 PTA
- ☐ 34 Oregon Association for Retarded Citizens
- ☐ 35 Epilepsy Foundation
- ☐ 36 Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children
- ☐ 37 Council for Exceptional Children
- ☐ 38 Oregon Association for Children with Learning Disabilities
- ☐ 39 Association of Parents of the Deaf
- ☐ 40 Oregon Association for the Deaf

- ☐ 41 Oregon Council for the Blind
- ☐ 42 Mental Health Association of Oregon
- ☐ 43 March of Dimes Foundation
- ☐ 44 Society for Autistic Children
- ☐ 45 United Cerebral Palsy of Oregon
- ☐ 46 Sectarian and/or non sectarian
community centers
- ☐ 47 Catholic Charities
- ☐ 48 All area churches and church groups
- ☐ 49 Volunteers of America
- ☐ 50 Planned Parenthood
- ☐ 51 Urban League
- ☐ 52 NAACP

Vocation/Professional Organizations

- ☐ 53 Teacher's organizations
- ☐ 54 Foresters
- ☐ 55 Grange
- ☐ 56 Farm Bureau
- ☐ 57 National Farmer's Organization
- ☐ 58 Farmer's Union
- ☐ 59 4-H
- ☐ 60 Labor Unions
- ☐ 61 Businessmen's Associations
- ☐ 62 Employee's Associations
- ☐ 63 Chamber of Commerce
- ☐ 64 Medical Society
- ☐ 65 Dental Society
- ☐ 66 Business and Professional Women
- ☐ 67 4-C Programs
- ☐ 68 Local Hospitals
- ☐ 69 Community colleges
- ☐ 70 College Special Education Departments
- ☐ 71 Head Start/Preschool Programs
- ☐ 72 Day Care Programs
- ☐ 73 Parents of Handicapped Children
- ☐ 74 Cooperatives
- ☐ 75 Public Utilities

Fortune Magazine

Disability:

NAME OF AGENCY:

[illegible]

SERVICES AVAILABLE

P indicates Primary
S indicates Secondary

| Information | Diagnostic | Treatment | Education | Day Care | Residential Program | Family Services | Social/Recreatio | Vocational |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|

COMMENTS:

MR - borderline
educable
trainable

Learning Disability

Behavior Disorder

Emotionally Disturbed

Orthopedic Handicap

Other Health Impaired

Visually Impaired

Speech Impaired

Language Delayed

Hearing/Deaf

Blind

Multiple Handicap

Financial Fixed Fee
Sliding
Title XX
SSI
Insurance
Scholorships
No Cost

Transportation

Comments

REGION _____

RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM

Date First Contacted: _____ Date Last Contacted: _____

NAPVI Staff: _____ Whom Contacted: _____

NAME OF FACILITY _____

Department _____

Director _____ Telephone No. _____

Address _____ City _____ County _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Brochures requested _____

Setting: Residential _____ Day Services _____ Out-Client _____ Office Hours _____

Other _____

DESCRIBE PURPOSE OF FACILITY _____

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR SERVICE: _____ Phone _____
Ext. _____

Application Process _____

STAFF MEMBERS EMPLOYED: # _____

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| M.D. _____ | Physical Therapist _____ | Teacher _____ | Aide _____ |
| Neurologist _____ | Occupational Therapist _____ | Social Worker _____ | Rec. Ther. _____ |
| Psychiatrist _____ | Speech Pathologist _____ | Nurse _____ | |
| Psychologist _____ | Audiologist _____ | LPN _____ | |
| (Other) _____ | | | |

GENERAL LOCATION _____

SPECIFY BARRIERS TO HANDICAPPED PERSON: _____

CLIENT REQUIREMENTS: Sex: M _____ F _____ B _____ Ages served: _____

Geographic Restrictions: _____

Months of Operation: _____

Anticipated special/summer program: _____

Telephone _____

SERVICE REQUEST FORM

Walk-In _____

INITIAL TELEPHONE OR WALK-IN INFORMATION

Date _____

Informant _____ Rel. to client: MTR. _____ FTR. _____ Guardian _____ Other _____

Father's Name _____ Mother's Name _____

Client Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____ Sex _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone(s) _____ School District _____ Grade _____

Heard of NAPVI from: TV _____ Radio _____ Newspaper _____ Broc./Poster _____ Agency _____

Friend/Relative _____ Staff Talk _____ School _____ Other _____ Explain _____

Handicap/diagnosis/problem _____

Previous services/date/agency _____

Background Info _____

Plan _____

Staff Member _____ Assigned to _____ Client Number _____

Telephone _____

SERVICE REQUEST FORM

Walk-In _____

INITIAL TELEPHONE OR WALK-IN INFORMATION

Date _____

Informant _____ Rel. to client: MTR. _____ FTR. _____ Guardian _____ Other _____

Father's Name _____ Mother's Name _____

Client Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____ Sex _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone(s) _____ School District _____ Grade _____

Heard of NAPVI from: TV _____ Radio _____ Newspaper _____ Broc./Poster _____ Agency _____

Friend/Relative _____ Staff Talk _____ School _____ Other _____ Explain _____

Handicap/diagnosis/problem _____

Previous services/date/agency _____

Background Info _____

Plan _____

Staff Member _____ Assigned to _____ Client Number _____

CONTRACT

This contract is entered into this date between O'Brien & Associates, Development Consultants, herein called the Firm, and the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, herein called NAPVI.

The Firm agrees to conduct all development consulting, to include;

1. Public relations.
2. Fund Raising.
3. Board consultation and training.

In consideration for the above NAPVI agrees to the following;

1. Provide all necessary information to the Firm on a timely basis.
2. Follow through on all recommendations made by the Firm in consultation with the Board of NAPVI.

The Professional Consulting Fee schedule is as follows;

1. The Firm agrees to wave all commissions or fees on the first \$20,000 raised.
2. The Firm receives fifteen (15) percent of all funds raised in addition to actual expenses incurred in raising these funds.

A. Actual Expenses - is defined as any normal expense associated with fund raising. This includes mileage (22.5 cents per mile), hotel lodging and meals when working outside of Austin, Texas. Any expenses incurred in raising the first \$20,000 will be charged to NAPVI.

This agreement may be amended in writing by consent of both parties.

This contract begins on Sept., 1st, 1984 and terminates on August 31, 1985.

This contract may be terminated by either party with written thirty day notice.

Date - August 18, 1984

Shaun P. O'Brien
Shaun P. O'Brien

Len B. Robinson
For NAPVI



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

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W. Robinson
Austin, Texas

August 16, 1984

Mrs. Keitha Robinson
2011 Hardy Circle
Austin, Texas 78757

Dear Mrs. Robinson:

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is pleased to offer you the position of Office Manager, commencing on September 1, 1984 and continuing through August 31, 1985. You will be responsible to the Board of Directors and report directly to the Executive Director of NAPVI.

You are expected to work under the November, 1983 ~~Draft~~ *YHL*
Description of Duties and Responsibilities attached to this *KSR*
letter and thereby incorporated herein. In addition, you are
to carry out any other duties as the Board and/or Executive
Director may specify or direct from time to time.

The office manager position at this time requires that the
national office be maintained for 20 hours per week. Your
annual salary is Seventy-Two Hundred Dollars (\$7,200.00),
payable in twelve monthly installments of Six Hundred Dollars
(\$600.00) each.

Please indicate your acceptance of this position by signing both
copies of this letter on the line provided and returning one
copy to me.

NAPVI appreciates your past service to the organization and looks
forward to your continued efforts on behalf of parents of
visually impaired children.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Carroll

Jacqueline Carroll, President

Attachment

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

Date

Keitha Robinson
Keitha Robinson



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

Officers

Jacqueline Carroll, President
Salamanca, New York
Elaine Puryear, Vice President
Austin, Texas
Linda Katskee, Secretary
Omaha, Nebraska
Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer
Charleston, South Carolina

Board of Directors

Fay Corey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jeanie Flack
Billings, Montana
Liz Hartman
Austin, Texas
Eileen Hudson
Beloit, Wisconsin
Laura Vidal
Queens Village, New York
Mary Lou Wilkinson
Forrest City, Arkansas
Judi Stotland
Los Angeles, California

Executive Director

Lee W. Robinson
Austin, Texas

August 16, 1984

Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
2011 Hardy Circle
Austin, Texas 78757

Dear Dr. Robinson,

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is pleased to offer you the position of Executive Director, commencing on ~~August~~ ^{September} 1, 1984 and continuing through ~~July~~ ^{August} 31, 1985. You will be responsible to the Board of Directors of NAPVI ("The Board") and report directly to the President of the Board.

You will be expected to work under the November, 1983 ~~Draft~~ ^{Letter} Description of Duties and Responsibilities attached to this letter and thereby incorporated herein. In addition, you are to carry out any other duties as the Board may specify or direct from time to time.

NAPVI fondly recognizes your many years of service to the organization and is grateful for the heart work you have contributed. Due to the economic status of NAPVI, the Executive Director position is on a voluntary basis at this time. Our intent, however, is to make this a salaried position as soon as our resources permit. Until such time as this is possible, we hope you will accept our token consideration of \$1.00.

Please indicate your acceptance of this position by signing both copies of this letter on the line provided and returning one copy to me.

We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Carroll

Jacqueline Carroll, President

Attachment:

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

Lee W. Robinson

Lee W. Robinson

Date

PARENT CONSULTANTS

2011 Hardy Circle

Austin, TX 78757

512/459-6651

August 20, 1984

Jacqueline Carroll, President
NAPVI, Inc.
393 Broad Street
Salamanca, New York 14779

Dear Mrs. Carroll:


Parent Consultants is prepared to lease space to The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) according to the terms stated below.

Parent Consultants will provide 312 square feet of office space for NAPVI at 5555 North Lamar, Suite H-109, Austin, Texas 78751. The per-month rate is \$250.00 first and last month payable in advance. The effective date for this agreement is from September 1, 1984 to August 31, 1985. NAPVI's equipment and supplies will be kept at this address. NAPVI business operations will be transacted in this space so far as available equipment permits. It is understood that the facilities will have specific space set aside for NAPVI materials and that reasonable use of the facilities other than those specifically designated will be arranged on an as-needed basis for meetings, board member use, etc.

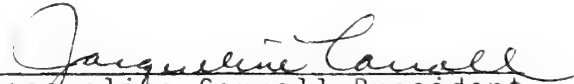
NAPVI will continue to pay for long-distance service as in the past. Parent Consultants will pay the monthly telephone service charges. The telephone will have a call-waiting feature.

If these terms are agreeable, please sign in the space indicated below and return one original. Alterations in this agreement must be made in writing and approved by both NAPVI and Parent Consultants.

We look forward to improved services to NAPVI.



Lee W. Robinson, Ed.D.
Parent Consultants



Jacqueline Carroll President
NAPVI, Inc.

August 20, 1984
Date

August 20, 1984
Date

developmental assessment * direction service
program assistance



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

RESOLUTION 84.1 LITIGATION

WHEREAS, as parents of children with visual impairments, we are obligated to do our best to obtain appropriate educational services for our children and,

WHEREAS, in some circumstances, after our best attempts at communication and cooperation it becomes necessary to resort to judicial remedies to establish the appropriateness of specific services and,

WHEREAS parents who prevail in such proceedings could reasonably hope that their hardships not be compounded by legal costs,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas in November, 1984, supports the passage of legislation providing for the recovery of costs and attorneys fees by parents who prevail in litigation against school districts on behalf of their children.



- support
- information
- service

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84.2 DECATEGORIZATION

WHEREAS local education agencies are increasingly resorting to a generic model to deliver services to blind and visually impaired infants, children and youth without regard to their unique learning and educational needs and,

WHEREAS there is no evidence that cost efficiency, service delivery, academic achievement or developmental progress is improved by a generic approach and,

WHEREAS such an approach frequently utilizes personnel who lack the expertise and training guaranteed to blind and visually impaired children by the Education For All Handicapped Children Act

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas in November, 1984, opposes all efforts to decategorize special education services that meet the unique needs of visually impaired children.



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84.3 TEACHER SHORTAGE

WHEREAS intervention by credentialed teachers of the visually impaired and by orientation and mobility specialists is vital to development and the ability to benefit from education for all blind and visually impaired children and,

WHEREAS lack of adequate funds for employment of sufficient numbers of said teachers, combined with stringent cutbacks in aid for the education of potential teachers, has resulted in both a severe teacher shortage and in caseload sizes that make quality service all but impossible and

WHEREAS similar motions have been passed by other professional and consumer organizations

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas in November, 1984, actively supports intensive measures for national recruitment, training and employment of professionals in the fields of the visually impaired and orientation and mobility to adequately meet our children's needs.



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651

1984-85 NAPVI COMMITTEES

PREPARED BY EILEEN HUDSON

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. ADVISORY/TECHNICAL BOARD | 9. MEMBERSHIP |
| Eileen Hudson | Fay Corey |
| Jeanie Flack | |
| Judi Stotland | 10. NOMINATING |
| Dr. Ferrell (Assisting) | Diana Cuthbertson |
| | Fay Corey |
| 2. AD HOC SPECIAL COMMITTEE (Review Guidelines) | 11. PROGRAM - SERVICE |
| Elaine Moses | Gail Granados |
| Gail Granados | Henry Hedgecock |
| Diana Cuthbertson | Diana Cuthbertson |
| | Eileen Hudson (Chairman) |
| 3. AFFILIATION | 12. PUBLICITY |
| Jeanie Flack | Jackie Carroll |
| Eileen Hudson | |
| Linda Katskee ? | 13. RESEARCH AND REVIEW |
| Judi Stotland (Alternate) | Fay Corey |
| | Jeanie Flack |
| 4. AWARDS | Gale Hedgecock |
| Fay Corey | |
| Jeanie Flack | 14. RESOLUTION AND POLICY |
| | Judi Stotland |
| 5. FUNDING | Elaine Moses |
| Henry Hedgecock | Dr. Ferrell (Assisting) |
| Gail Granados | |
| Eileen Hudson (Chairman) | 15. SCHOLARSHIP |
| | Henry Hedgecock (Chairman) |
| 6. GRANDPARENTS | Diana Cuthbertson |
| Jackie Carroll | Eileen Hudson |
| Mary Lou Wilkinson | |
| | |
| 7. LIST OF LISTS | |
| Elaine Moses | |
| Mary Lou Wilkinson | |
| Dr. Ferrell (Assisting) | |
| | |
| 8. NEWSLETTER | |
| Mary Lou Wilkinson (Editor) | |
| Complete Board (Articles) | |

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

Board of Directors Annual Meeting
Minutes
November 2-4, 1984

The annual board meeting of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired was called to order by President Jacqueline Carroll at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 2, 1984, in Austin, Texas.

Those present at the meeting were Elaine Moses, Henry Hedgecock, Fay Corey, Jeanie Flack, Mary Lou Wilkinson, Judy Stotland, Eileen Hudson, Gail Granados and Diana Cuthbertson. Others present were Mrs. Henry Hedgecock, Executive Director Dr. Lee Robinson, AFB Liaison Dr. Kay Farrell and Office Manager Keitha Robinson.

An official welcome was given to the Board as this was its first opportunity to meet in the new NAPVI office as well as to welcome two new board members, Diana Cuthbertson of Massachusetts and Gail Granados of Connecticut.

The first order of business was to put the yellow notebooks of every board member in order, seeing that a copy of the bylaws, minutes of proceeding meetings and all other official documents were included.

The Board also toured the Texas School for the Blind and the Austin Independent School District Multi-handicapped Program before the meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

The meeting was recalled to order at 2 p.m. at the LaQuinta

Motel in Austin by Pres. Carroll with the introduction of Mr. Shaun O'Brien of O'Brien and Associates.

Mr. O'Brien expressed his disappointment with the failure of the initial fund raising effort with the direct mail-out appeals. He felt that, in order to get the additional financial support of its members, along with their dues, NAPVI needed more projects and programs offered and NAPVI does not have the wherewithall to do this. Mr. O'Brien went on to state the four criterias that they used in searching out foundations that may fund NAPVI. The plan that they would proceed with is: a general proposal would be sent out to each foundation, then specific requests sent to the foundation, tailoring these in line with the foundation's average gift. There are 12 foundations they will actually be soliciting. In addition, Mr. O'Brien will send out four proposals per week through Nov. 15. These proposals are considered through the year ending in 1984. Beginning in December he will continue to send out proposals to foundations for consideration at foundation boards' quarterly meetings in 1985. Mr. O'Brien felt that within the first 60 days NAPVI would see some favorable results. He stated that NAPVI'S chances in raising the funds to implement programs were good because NAPVI'S ideas are appealing, the cause is good and NAPVI is not in competition with any other organization with the type of services it delivers. The projects NAPVI is seeking funds for are: 1) the case managment file, 2) updating Take Charge and acquiring an 800 number.

Mr. O'Brien thanked Keitha Robinson for her fine job of proposal writing.

During the Board's discussion it was suggested that if anyone of the Board would like to send a personal letter to foundations they may do so. Dr. Robinson will send the addresses if they are requested. Mr. O'Brien asked that if any Board member knows of someone on a foundation that they send the name to him.

The contract between NAPVI and Mr. O'Brien states that he will receive no monies for the first \$20,000 except for expenses accrued with visits to foundations. He will then receive ten percent of the monies collected after the first \$20,000.

There was much discussion about a safeguard against Mr. O'Brien spending too much money at one time for expenses. A motion was made by Judi Stotland that all contracts negotiated by NAPVI be made available to all Board members and placed in official notebooks. It was seconded by Fay Corey and the motion carried.

Next on the agenda was a report from Dr. Ferrell, AFB liaison, who felt that the American Foundation for the Blind would probably continue to support NAPVI financially with the three-year cycle. Three things were asked for by Dr. Ferrell to show NAPVI'S credibility; 1) evidence of financial independence, 2) membership growth, 3) independent office and procedures. Although financial independence is not there presently, there is evidence of something being done. Although membership growth is not where it was hoped to be, it has improved and NAPVI does have its own office and a manual of procedures on file. It was also announced that NAPVI will have its own telephone listing in December.

What AFB needs from NAPVI to begin planning its three year

financing cycle is a report consisting of financial statements, membership growth, projects of the past five years along with plans for future projects with future monies given. It was suggested a grant be submitted to AFB for the \$22,000 to continue NAPVI'S operations and submit a second proposal to go specifically for the National Parent Conference. It was announced that the Leadership Training Meeting will be held Feb. 13-17 in Washington D.C. Several suggestions were made regarding NAPVI's involvement during this meeting, including contacting Mr. O'Brien to see if there would be time to submit a grant for funds for the complete Board to go to Washington, D.C.

A committee consisting of Mary Lou Wilkinson, Jeanie Flack, Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock would draft the review of NAPVI's accomplishments in the proposals that Dr. Robinson would submit to AFB.

A motion to accept the minutes of the annual Board meeting of 1983 in Orlando, Florida, was made by Henry Hedgecock and seconded by Jeanie Flack. The minutes should show that the Nominating Committee welcomed Judi Stotland to the Board along with Liz Hartman. The Sunday morning minutes have not been completed but arrived during this meeting and Judi Stotland agreed to complete these as soon as possible. With no further additions or corrections the motion was voted on and passed.

The financial report was held over until the Saturday morning meeting.

The three-year plan approved by the Board during the telephone conference call in July, 1984, was the next item on the

agenda. It was charged to the Board to prioritize projects for the next three years, with the continuation of publishing Awareness listed as the top priority.

Because of the lateness of the hour the three-year plan was held over until the morning meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was called to order Saturday morning, Nov. 3rd, by President Jacqueline Carroll with the reading of a letter from Laura Vidal. The agenda was changed to cover projects that had been completed during the past year, such as the Affiliation Packet and Your Child's InFoRMation Journal. At this time a motion was made by Diana Cuthbertson to sell the Journal for \$5 a copy plus postage, with a follow-up survey in a year. Motion was seconded by Fay Corey, voted on and passed.

An acknowledgement along with a resolution would be sent to each of the NAPVI retired Board members, including Linda Katzkee, Liz Hartman, Gale Hedgecock and Laura Vidal. The Resolutions Committee, composed of Fay Corey and Jeanie Flack, will be in charge of this project.

The annual award for outstanding service to parents of visually impaired children went this year to Dr. Berthold Lowenfeld. A letter was read that will be sent to Mr. Lowenfeld and the plaque will be delivered at a later date. The 1985 award will go to Pauline M. Moor.

The new literature display box was presented to the Board and will cost \$1.50 per box. It was suggested that each board member take home the box and place it in an appropriate office where it will be visible and accessible to the public. This project will

be taken to Mr. O'Brien for funding.

A bumper sticker will be sent out as a free gift for members who renew their membership. The bumper sticker will go out without the full description of NAPVI.

Fay Corey proposed a project for NAPVI of developing tapes and/or brochures on "How to Cope" to be used by parents or groups. A committee consisting of Henry Hedgecock, Gail Granados, Judi Stotland, Diana Cuthbertson and Fay Corey will work on this project.

Parents to the Rescue has a new cover.

The meeting continued with each Board member describing or showing off projects they have been working on, as well as meetings or conferences they have attended.

Awareness is almost ready for cassette. Also, Mary Lou Wilkinson and Gale Hedgecock are working on the Hints Booklet and will be sending a letter out to residential schools and others seeking hints from them for the booklet.

Fay Corey will write an article for the newsletter in regards to the Early Years Conference.

Jeanie Flack will be holding a workshop in Utah. A motion was made to send an additional Board member to Utah by Diana Cuthbertson. The motion, seconded by Gail Granados, passed. Judi Stotland will be the representative.

The financial report was read by Henry Hedgecock. There was a correction in the credits. It should read \$15,123.20 as the total. The motion was made by Jeanie Flack to accept the budget

report as amended. It was seconded by Elaine Moses. Motion carried. The new expense sheets were passed out and discussion on the proper procedure for filling them out followed. It was requested that the Board use NAPVI'S tax exempt number when making a purchase for NAPVI.

There was a review of the ongoing committees as listed in the bylaws and the Board members serving on these committees. An ad hoc committee to study the California Guidelines, composed of Diana Cuthbertson, Gail Granados and Elaine Moses, was formed. A letter of intent from NAPVI will be sent to the California Department of Education in support of their document. Dr. Robinson will draft the letter and it must meet with the approval of the Committee.

Members of the committee to select professionals for the Advisory Board are Judi Stotland, Eileen Hudson, and Jeanie Flack, with Dr. Ferrell as advisor.

A scholarship committee was appointed and its members include Henry Hedgecock, Eileen Hudson and Diana Cuthbertson.

A committee to establish a Grandparents Group, a lifetime membership, memorial and tribute will have Jackie Carroll and Mary Lou Wilkinson serving.

The Affiliation Committee, in addition to reviewing affiliation applications, will monitor and follow up to see that the goal of six new parent groups is met. The letters to the new groups will be written and mailed from the main office. It was recommended that the committee check into the Ohio affiliation. It was noted that New Mexico may be one parent group interested in

affiliating.

The Project Committee will decide when and where the next workshops will be held, keeping in mind previous locations. The committee will report to Dr. Robinson.

The Board moved to have another display designed and made. It will be taken care of by Dr. Robinson.

Henry Hedgecock made a motion that when the money becomes available, the president of NAPVI will go to the main office quarterly. The motion was seconded by Judi Stotland and the motion carried.

The items and committees just covered are for the first year of the three-year plan. A needs statement will be sent out to the appropriate committees by the president to be acted upon by 1986-87.

The next items on the agenda were resolutions and policies. There was some discussion in regards to what a "resolution" and "policy" are. It was stated that a resolution is a position or statement and a policy is a directive.

Dr. Robinson felt it would be wise to have a written policy regarding confidentiality in the office. The Resolutions Committee would write this and the statement should state that if a Board member uses NAPVI stationery regarding a position that Board member is taking, he/she should contact the president and one other Board member who is informed about the issue for approval.

The winner of the 1984 membership drive was Judi Stotland. The meeting was adjourned for the supper hour at 4:30 and

will reconvene at 8 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Carroll with the reading of the resolutions by Judi Stotland. The first resolution was in regards to a shortage of visually impaired teachers and mobility instructors. The motion was seconded by Jeanie Flack. Motion carried. It was suggested that the resolution be sent to the Department of Education, ACB, AFB, AER, NFB and others with a cover letter asking if there is anything NAPVI could do. This motion was made by Judi Stotland and seconded by Henry Hedgecock. Motion carried.

A resolution in regards to legislation was read by Judi Stotland. It was seconded by Henry Hedgecock and the motion carried.

The resolution regarding decategorization was read by Judi Stotland. It was not acted upon at this time.

President Carroll tendered her formal resignation as president to NAPVI, effective at the end of the meeting on Nov. 4, 1984.

The position of president went to Vice President Elaine Moses, leaving the positions of the vice president and secretary open. Eileen Hudson was appointed vice president and Judi Stotland was appointed secretary. The appointments were seconded by Diana Cuthbertson and the motion passed.

With the two new appointments, Region III and VI are open, leaving these positions to be filled. The two previous members from those regions should have some input into these appointments, which should be made as soon as possible.

The membership of the Program and Services Committee now has been changed to Eileen Hudson, Henry Hedgecock, Diana Cuthbertson and Gail Granados.

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was called to order on Sunday, Nov. 4, by President Carroll. The committee reports were first on the agenda.

The fund raising report from the committee recommended and moved that letter mail outs from Mr. O'Brien be discontinued and NAPVI would solicit funds through the newsletter. The motion was made by Diana Cuthbertson and seconded by Judi Stotland.

The Programs and Services Committee made recommendations to hold a parent workshop with the Washington D.C. Leadership Training Institute in February. It was also recommended that a workshop be held in the spring of 1985 in Queens, NY; a third workshop in the fall of 1985 in Chicago and a national parent conference to be in 1986 and no later than 1987. Motion carried.

The Affiliation Committee made the recommendation that a positive letter of encouragement be sent by Dr. Robinson to the Ohio affiliate with a personal contact from a board member appointed by the chairperson of the Affiliation Committee.

Jeanie Flack presented the list of accomplishments that was needed by Dr. Robinson.

The Decategorization Resolution was read by Judi Stotland and was a committee proposal. Motion carried.

Judi Stotland read the Resolution and Policy Committees' policy statement on Confidentiality. Motion carried.

The next policy involved personal inquiries into the national office and this was read by Judi Stotland. Motion carried. The resolution will be published in the newsletter and resolutions and policies will be sent to each Board member for the NAPVI notebooks.

Mary Lou Wilkinson read a policy statement in regard to Board members attending meetings or conferences at NAPVI expense. Motion carried.

Fay Corey read a format for the presentation of awards to retiring Board members and professionals. The motion carried.

The contracts for Mr. O'Brien, the executive director and executive secretary are needed for the official notebooks.

Diana Cuthbertson will write an article for publication in The Exceptional Parent.

Dr. Robinson will send out a list of materials available to affiliates.

A policy statement should be written in regards to affiliates being invited to the annual Board meeting.

Diana Cuthbertson is the chairperson for the Nominating Committee under the recommendation of Fay Corey.

The resignation of Board members Linda Katskee and Liz Hartman were read and accepted.

It was recommended that the Executive Board meet in six months in Austin, Texas.

The presentation of the award to Gale Hedgecock for her services to NAPVI was done by Fay Corey.

The annual meeting of the NAPVI Board for 1984 was adjourned
by retiring President Jacqueline Carroll.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen A. Hudson

Acting Secretary



- support
- information
- service

P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, Tel. (512) 459-6651
January 8, 1984

Officers

Jacqueline Carroll, President
Salamanca, New York
Elaine Puryear, Vice President
Austin, Texas
Linda Katskee, Secretary
Omaha, Nebraska
Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer
Charleston, South Carolina

Board of Directors

Fay Corey
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Jeanie Flack
Billings, Montana
Liz Hartman
Austin, Texas
Eileen Hudson
Beloit, Wisconsin
Laura Vidal
Queens Village, New York
Mary Lou Wilkinson
Forrest City, Arkansas
Judi Stotland
Los Angeles, California

Executive Director

Lee W. Robinson
Austin, Texas

Mr. William F. Gallagher, Executive Director
American Foundation for the Blind
15 West 16th Street
New York, NY 10011

Dear Mr. Gallagher,

This letter is to express thanks to the American Foundation for the Blind for its services to the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) and to provide an introduction to a long overdue report of the progress of NAPVI. Overdue because until now NAPVI has not presented an extensive written review of its activities. The fact that NAPVI was a new organization with little experience in relationships with funding sources and with few resources to develop and maintain information for reports seemed to dictate that previous reports be brief; usually they were presented in oral form through Dr. Spungin and Dr. Ferrell.

In an effort to provide you and the Board of the American Foundation for the Blind with a sense of what NAPVI has accomplished a more comprehensive report with documentation and hopefully a long range perspective is being provided. If there are questions about any of this material or if additional information should be provided please do not hesitate to request it.

We feel that essential organizational ground work has been completed and that procedures are in place to guide future activities. Membership has continued to increase each year; however, this should not be the criteria for evaluating NAPVI's progress. A "flash in the pan" drive for recognition and membership is not what we and AFB's staff and Board wanted. Instead, careful planning with steady progress toward stable, effective service to parents of visually impaired children was and is the goal. We feel much has been accomplished toward that end.

William F. Gallagher
Page 2

Most of all, we hope that the earlier lack of information has not caused you any embarrassment with the Board and that the information presented here will show the benefits of this organization to parents and families of visually impaired children. We feel AFB should be proud of what has been accomplished because of the essential contributions it has made financially and through consultation.

Thank you for all your support. We wish you every success in the coming year and look forward to continued association.

Sincerely,

Elaine Moses

Elaine Moses, President

Lee W. Robinson

Lee W. Robinson, Executive Director

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED INC.

FIVE YEAR REPORT TO

THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

1979 THROUGH 1984

The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired Inc. (NAPVI) is perhaps the most significant development in the field of blindness during the past five years. The initiative of the American Foundation for the Blind in 1979 to aid development of this organization has grown into the most widely recognized and respected organization for parents of visually impaired children in the United States. For the first time an organization of, by and for parents offers a program of support, information and service to parents of visually impaired children without regard to the age or degree of visual impairment of their child(ren). This broad base provides an opportunity for parents to improve services to visually impaired children on a national level and contributes significantly to efforts of other groups in pursuit of resources for the benefit of the blind and visually impaired.

Though still in its infancy, NAPVI has already made significant progress toward assisting parents to cope with the complex problems of providing care and education for their visually impaired children. NAPVI's goals are: (1) to provide assistance in the development of local, state and regional parent groups so that all parents of visually impaired children will have access to

emotional support from other parents; (2) to provide information to parents about how to obtain quality services for their children and provide information to professionals and the public about the needs of families with visually impaired children; and (3) to provide services which will assist parents to become advocates and case managers for their children.

What follows is a brief description of the accomplishments of NAPVI from 1979 through 1984. Each section describes activities for this time period in general chronological order with appendices giving statistics and products of the activities. The areas described are: organizational history, membership, publicity, administration, facilities and equipment, services, fund raising, future plans.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

In the spring of 1979 approximately 20 parents from across the United States were invited to meet with staff of the American Foundation for the Blind to investigate the possibility of organizing a national parent group for the visually impaired. This meeting occurred May 9-10 in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. William F. Gallagher, executive director of AFB and Dr. Susan J. Spungin, national consultant on education, met with this group of parents and asked two significant questions: (1) Is there a need for a parent group for the blind and visually impaired similar to organizations for other groups of handicapped children e.g. United Cerebral Palsy, Association for Retarded Citizens, etc? and (2) If there is a need, is it possible to have such an organization? The discussion which followed led to a survey of parents to determine if such a need existed and to investigate other organizations to determine if parents of the visually impaired could benefit from a national organizational structure. The survey questionnaire was written and questions

which needed answers were formulated. It was agreed that following the survey the group would meet again to evaluate the results and determine if further action should be taken.

The agreed upon follow-up meeting was held in New Orleans, Louisiana November 16-17, 1979. The results of the survey were somewhat overwhelming in that more than twice as many survey forms were returned than had been sent out. As there was no national parent "list", parents who received the survey form were invited to duplicate it and distribute it to others they knew. Almost without exception a need for a national organization was indicated. Parents from rural areas were particularly interested in more contact with other parents. A newsletter was thought to be of value and in general many words of encouragement to organize a national parent group were received. A need for a national group seemed to be indicated. The information collected from other national organizations was compared to determine what aspects of each might be of benefit to parents of visually impaired children. Selected aspects of each were listed as desirable to the group or not desirable. Also at that meeting Mrs. Gretchen Smith, president of the American Council of Blind Parents, met with the group and a considerable amount of discussion centered on becoming a part of the American Council of the Blind or other blind consumer groups.

The final conclusions were: (1) that a national parent group should be established, (2) that this should be a separate and broad based group open to all parents of blind and visually impaired children (3) that the group then assembled should organize for the purpose of creating a national organization of parents of blind and visually impaired children. The remainder of the time was spent formulating the basic constitutional outlines in order to form the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired. Officers and

committees were selected from the original ad hoc committee, an annual meeting date was set, and plans were made to incorporate. The American Foundation for the Blind pledged to provide technical support from its staff and to seek approval from the AFB Board of Directors to provide some financial support. AFB's sponsoring financial support of these first two meetings was the only way that this group was able to begin the important work of establishing NAPVI.

During February of 1980, formal bylaws were written and application for a non-profit corporate charter were submitted in the State of Texas. The corporate charter was granted March 5, 1980. Bylaws and corporate papers were then submitted to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exempt status as a 501 (c)(3) type organization. Required revisions and additions to the bylaws were filed on November 19, 1980 and resubmitted. Provisional tax exempt status was granted for a five-year period ending August 31, 1985. This was received December 23, 1980. (See Appendix A.)

While the formal organization had been accomplished by late 1980, only one board meeting (the ad hoc committee meeting of November, 1979) had been held. It remained the task of the Board, through policy resolutions, to determine how and when elections and rotation of board members should take place, to establish bank accounts, to begin membership and fund raising activities and in general become a functioning entity.

MEMBERSHIP

Each year has seen continued growth through the numbers of people who have participated in NAPVI. (See Appendix B "Membership".) During the five years 1,206 families have been members. Membership for 1984 reached 621 paid memberships. The total membership included 62 percent parents, 1 percent

parent groups, 4 percent supporting memberships and 6 percent agency/community group memberships. While paid membership is the only absolute statistic of record, it is certain that the impact on families has been far greater. For example, many of the agency memberships represent activities of agency staff with parents. During 1984 13 schools for the blind accepted an offer from NAPVI to distribute a special edition of AWARENESS dealing with the multihandicapped. More than 500 copies were sent out. Parent groups which have taken a group membership but who have not yet begun the affiliation process also represent many parents rather than the single paid membership.

NAPVI is unable to acquire lists of parents from agencies in order to mount a direct parent to parent membership campaign. While many thousands of pieces of literature have been sent to agencies and individuals, it is difficult to convey the benefits of this organization via pamphlets, newsletters, etc. There is no control over how the materials are presented nor even any guarantee that the materials actually get into the hands of parents.

NAPVI has established five affiliate chapters in California, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, and Nebraska. Others have made inquiry regarding affiliation during the past several months as a result of board member appearances at state and national meetings. Early attempts to attract and provide services to affiliates were clumsy and adequate follow-up was not provided. Recent revisions in affiliate procedures will provide a more attractive and fruitful affiliate program. (See Appendix B.)

The one aspect of membership which can and has been improved for the 1984 year is the percentage of renewals. Increasing the numbers of parents who renew their membership will bring a great increase in the organization's

membership growth. As might be expected in any organization, membership is likely to grow in proportion to the services rendered. Now that much of the mechanics of organization and workable affiliate procedures are in place, more time can be spent providing services which will also contribute to increased membership.

ADMINISTRATION

Throughout the five years of NAPVI's existence, growing toward a well run, independent organization has been a steady trend. Beginning with the total support of AFB for program direction and fiscal management during late 1979 and 1980, the responsibility for planning programs and deciding what steps the organization needed to take for future success has gradually shifted to the NAPVI's Board of Directors and officers. Other signs of progress toward a successful organization include: establishing banking operations which account for funds and take opportunity for interest earnings, 1980; contracting for part-time secretarial services, 1983; establishing written job descriptions and office procedures, 1983; contracting with a professional fund raiser, 1983; moving the operations from the home of a member to an office, 1984; and establishing telephone listings and acquiring equipment, 1984. Perhaps the most crucial development in administration is the development of a three-year plan and budget, 1984. The goals and activities outlined provide the structure for continued growth toward meeting the unique needs of parents of visually impaired children. (See Appendix C.)

The vital role of providing an efficiently operated office is only partially complete. The services of a part-time secretary only provide for answering correspondence and minimal membership services. The amount of

increase will soon dictate full-time secretarial services. There was a 41 percent increase in the amount of correspondence excluding newsletter mail out. (3,528 mailings in fiscal 1983 and 4,983 in fiscal 1984). Development of new programs and services and all planning, budgeting, fundraising, publicity, and other programmatic functions are still accomplished on a volunteer basis by the executive director, officers and board of directors. The limited time and resources of these individuals slows the growth of the organization's services. It should be pointed out that the officers and Board are extremely dedicated to this organization and many have donated untold amounts of their own resources for phone calls, postage, travel and time. Given the conditions of financial stress and demands of family living inherent to parents of visually impaired children, the amount contributed and NAPVI'S progress toward independence has been truly amazing.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Board Meetings: The foregoing descriptions of organizational development have been accomplished through only a few meetings of the Board of Directors. These meetings have usually been held in conjunction with a workshop for parents in order to reduce costs. The goal of these workshops has been to encourage establishment of a NAPVI/affiliated parent group. In addition to the meetings held in St. Louis, Missouri and New Orleans, Louisiana, board meetings were held in Omaha, Nebraska; Charleston, South Carolina; Austin, Texas; St. Louis, Missouri; Orlando, Florida and Austin, TX. In addition, two executive committee meetings were held in Austin in July of 1983 and July of 1984. The executive committee meetings have been valuable in planning and making the meetings of the full board more productive.

Workshops: Parent workshops have been held in many parts of the country.

Also, Board members have been invited to speak and/or conduct meetings with parents in many areas. The list of cities includes:

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Omaha | 1981 |
| San Francisco | 1981 |
| Tucson | 1981 |
| Los Angeles | 1982 |
| Phoenix | 1982 |
| Pittsburgh | 1982 |
| Birmingham | 1982 |
| Binghamton | 1983 |
| Columbus | 1983 |
| Salem | 1983 |
| New York | 1983 |
| Iowa City | 1983 |
| Dallas | 1983 |
| Houston | 1983 |

While NAPVI has either sponsored or been invited to these cities the Board members have been invited to numerous other meetings of other organizations e.g., the American Council of the Blind Convention, the Leadership Seminars sponsored by the University of Michigan, the preschool division of AERVI. Board members also participate on other boards and commissions, for example, the Wisconsin Council on Services to the Blind, the National Developmental Disabilities Council, The California Joint Action Committee, The Texas Commission for the Blind Consumer Advisory Council, American Foundation for the Blind Advisory Committee on the Early Years, Texas Early Childhood Task Force, as well as numerous local organizations. In short, the members of the Board of Directors have had impact on a national level including participation in the national effort to preserve PL 94-142. Through these efforts NAPVI is on its way to being recognized as THE organization for parents of visually impaired and blind children.

Perhaps the most far-reaching service has been the publication of AWARENESS, NAPVI's quarterly newsletter and four resource books: Take Charge, A Library Resource Guide for Teachers of the Visually Impaired, How to Pack 'Em

In, and Parents to the Rescue. These publications, along with membership brochures, fact sheets, reprints, publication lists, and one special edition of the Newsletter, "Why Join NAPVI", have spread the NAPVI logo throughout the United States and even brought many requests for more information from foreign countries as far away as Malasia and Austrailia. A new publication, Your Child's InFORMation Journal, is ready for publication as soon as funds permit. One notable shift has taken place in the use of publications. In 1980 the newsletter was chiefly a vehicle for publicity; and then has become a benefit of membership. Today it is a direct source of information about NAPVI at meetings and conventions as well as a vital link between parents across the country.

As impressive and visible as these meetings and publications are, the real heart of NAPVI service has been being able to help individual parents find the resources they need to help care for and provide education for their visually impaired children. "Our daughter/son is blind; can you tell me..." are the key words found in many letters which come to the NAPVI office. Such inquiries have ranged from where to find services to technical information about rare eye diseases. Often the question is "Can you tell us of other parents who have a child like ours?" "Is there a parent group in our area?" and, "How can we start a group?" A concentrated effort has been made to give personal attention to each inquiry. This has become ever more difficult as the volume has increased. (See Appendix E.) Information is given freely to members and nonmembers. Nonmembers are given opportunities to find out more about NAPVI and invited to become members. Most (approximately 80 percent) of NAPVI's financial resources are spent for the costs of providing publications, information services and workshops.

FUNDING

As mentioned previously, without the initial funding and support of the American Foundation for the Blind this organization would not have had an opportunity to develop. Continued funding from AFB has remained the chief means of support. However, it has been recognized from its inception that NAPVI must be able to generate funds of its own if it is to reach its potential for service to all parents of visually impaired children. It is further understood that the population to be served by NAPVI is already under economic stress because of the expenses of medical treatment and of special equipment and training needed by the visually impaired or blind child. NAPVI's progress toward increasing financial independence has been steady but slow.

Income from 1979 to 1984 and the relationship to AFB funding is shown below.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>1979</u> | <u>1980</u> | <u>1981</u> | <u>1982</u> | <u>1983</u> | <u>1984</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| NAPVI | \$500 | \$1,527 | \$ 4,445 | \$ 7,525 | \$ 8,554 | \$14,870 |
| AFB | unknown | unknown | \$18,000 | \$18,000 | \$20,000 | \$22,000 |

Sources of income other than AFB include: membership dues, sale of publications, meeting registration fees and contributions.

Various attempts have been made to acquire funding. These have included direct solicitation of individuals, many letters to companies and corporations, a few proposals to foundations, a direct mail appeal to members and a raffle. Each of these has yielded some income but mostly only a few hundreds of dollars net income. The most intensive efforts have been during 1983 and 1984. After some investigation, a professional fund raiser was hired in the hope that this

individual and his company could help plan long-range funding programs and raise funds for immediate projects. Such a move was necessary because of the lack of experience in fund raising among the Board members and because of the lack of time and financial resources needed to engage in large-scale funding activities. Initial efforts included a direct mail appeal to members, followed by proposals to foundations for particular NAPVI projects. These efforts have not yet had time to produce the success hoped for. Efforts are continuing to secure both short and long range funding. Maintaining and expanding services is absolutely dependent on increased funds.

FUTURE GOALS

The ultimate goal of NAPVI is to provide an organization for approximately 12,000 families with support services which meet their needs in eight areas.

The eight need areas are:

- The need for emotional support and relief from feelings of isolation felt when their child is blind or seriously impaired.
- The need for information so that they can make better decisions about care, education and treatment for their children.
- The need for training and assistance in establishing local, state or regional parent groups.
- The need for assistance in understanding how to find and use resources that are available to them.
- The need for united effort to acquire and maintain quality services for all blind and visually impaired children.
- The need to communicate and share expertise and empathy which provides encouragement and help.
- The need for communicating their expectations to federal, state and local service agencies in a constructive manner.
- The need to feel their children are accepted as worthwhile individuals.

Specific objectives for fiscal 1985 through fiscal 1987 have been developed. (See Appendix C.) During the November, 1984, board meeting priorities were established which allow for orderly implementation of this plan as funds become available. In general, this means to maintaining current levels of services including: publishing AWARENESS, maintaining office functions for membership and board activities, conducting workshops and making information available to parents. Specific costs and budgets are included.

A major thrust of the plan is to hold a national conference for parents of the visually impaired in the fall of 1986. This conference is designed to produce additional written and audio-visual materials for future service projects as well as to attract increased membership. This, so far as we know, will be the first conference specifically for parents of the visually impaired in the United States. We hope to gain the support of many agencies and organizations for this effort. Plans are being completed for this activity at the present time and will be disseminated early in 1985.

SUMMARY

Nothing worthwhile is ever achieved without effort or without support from many sources. NAPVI's accomplishments are no exception. Without the support of AFB, parents would never have had the opportunity to consider how they might support one another. Without the dedication of the Board of Directors, none of the activities would have laid a foundation for growth and services vitally needed by parents of visually impaired children. Many parents and professionals have contributed time and other resources to help NAPVI. While the organization has not been able to serve more than a few thousand people in a very small way, the structure and procedures are in place to provide these services. Having services available to parents is the key to attracting

membership to NAPVI. The process of developing structure and long-term goals, the things which will assure that NAPVI has future direction, has been a deliberate one. This course, however, has produced a greater opportunity for long-term success. NAPVI is not without competition for members and resources and must continue to build its services. Thanks to the American Foundation for the Blind NAPVI is in an excellent position to be of service. With continued support and with encouragement from parents, NAPVI is resolved to continue to offer support, information and service.



Why Join NAPVI?

SPECIAL EDITION / AWARENESS

Guest Editor: Fay Corey

NAPVI is an organization for parents, either singly or in pairs, who have one thing in common—they all have visually impaired children.

When we begin to talk of the children, however, the differences begin. Some are very young and others are nearing that time when they must leave their school placements for college or jobs. Some go to school with sighted peers, while others are in residential school settings with other visually impaired students. Some have only one handicapping condition; many more have addi-

tional problems which make their care more involved.

Hence, the meshing of these differences creates a real challenge for NAPVI—which is, after all, meant to help parents.

We thought we'd like to devote some space in this issue to providing insight into why parents with all sorts of children would want to join NAPVI. Threaded through all of this special section are reasons NAPVI was organized and challenges for the future. This one's for you!

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR

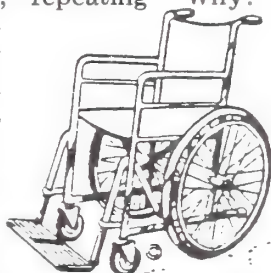
By FAY COREY

"Why?" is a word that all parents of handicapped children are familiar with, a word most ask when they first find out about their child's handicapping condition. As a parent of a severely multihandicapped child, I remember, over a decade ago, repeating "Why?" "Why?" many times. Finally, my husband said, "If you knew why, would it change things? Would we put our son aside and forget we ever had him? Obviously not."

In retrospect, the best advice given to us by a doctor at the time was "Wait and see how your son will develop." No promises came with those words, but the hope was not taken away. However, five months later a neurologist casually said to me during an office visit "Can this child see?" "I think so," I replied. I was cruelly told "No, he can't" and I shall never forget that day or the term "cortically blind" the rest of my life. I learned though that "life goes on" no matter what happens.

During the next two years I was to deal with five different specialists; to search independently for an early intervention program; to cope with an irritable crying child twenty hours a day and to have a husband who traveled a great deal with his job.

When I was finally able to hook up with a parent group I'll never forget a mom stating, loud and clear, "My son is ONLY blind." From that day on I've always had the feeling "where does this son of mine belong?—this sweet little boy who happens to have cerebral palsy, mental retardation and cortical blindness?" He's in a day program in a residential school for the blind, he lives in a middle class neighborhood in a large metropolitan city, he has parents who love him, quality care and yet, where does he belong? Medical technology saved his life, and I will be forever grateful, but it has been up to me—the "pioneer" parent—to help find a place for him in this world.



I have found the support of other parents, with children such as mine, to be my greatest strength and my greatest hope. Only through this mutual bond do we understand what our children mean to us and our constant fight for their rights and dignity as human beings.

Since the inception of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI), I have been a board member, representing parents of multihandicapped children. I am the only member of a board of 11 with a child with more than a visual impairment. Needless-to-say, this represents a tremendous responsibility. Along with this responsibility to other parents of multihandicapped children also comes a tremendous commitment to NAPVI. At the annual board meeting last November the entire board was made more aware of the needs of the multihandicapped through a NAPVI-sponsored area workshop. The timing seemed right to propose a project that might help to reach out and unify parents who have multihandicapped children; to let them know that many of us are able to deal with our fear, isolation and anger through NAPVI—just as those parents do who have children with only one handicap.

In proposing this special edition of AWARENESS, I asked the board, "What difference does it make if a child has his/her mobility through the use of a cane or a wheelchair?" Perhaps, after you read this special edition, you will find it doesn't (or shouldn't) make any difference whatsoever to you, the parent of a visually impaired child. When we reach out and unify we will realize that NAPVI is THE organization FOR, OF, AND, BY parents of all visually impaired children—including those who are cortically blind!

Through the willingness of many fine people to submit articles, this special edition is made possible. In between child care, laundry, cooking, errands, parent meetings, a traveling husband's schedule and the bereavement of my mother's recent death, I have coordinated this special edition of AWARENESS with the hope that it indeed finds many facets to the question "Why NAPVI?" □□□

A BLIND MOM SPEAKS

By EILEEN HUDSON

Being legally blind has its problems, but so far for our two teenagers, Bryan and Michelle, it has been more of a nuisance.

Bryan and Michelle were born with macular degeneration, high myopia (nearsightedness), and astigmatism. Their central vision is gone and they see best out of the sides of the eye and at a very close range.

They began wearing glasses at a very early age, Bryan at 18 months and Michelle at three years. They learned very quickly glasses could make them see better and left them on.

Bryan was enrolled in the public school system for kindergarten with an explanation to the principal and teacher that he would need some help. He had a very understanding teacher who found time to help him without making him feel uncomfortable with his peers. At the end of Bryan's kindergarten year, the vision consultant from our state came to our home and pointed out some of the problems Bryan would have in the school system in the coming years and wondered if we had considered the option of the residential school. We checked into it and took a tour. We made the choice for placement at the residential school knowing, of course, he would be picked up every morning by bus and brought home every night, as we were only 13 miles from the school.

He stayed at the Wisconsin School for the Visually Impaired for ten years, participating in a cooperative program with the public school system there which allowed him to be with sighted as well as visually impaired youngsters. He did well academically at both schools and found time to participate in many activities, both socially and athletically at the residential school. This year he made the choice to mainstream to our local high school as a junior and presently is maintaining good academic grades. He is also on the swim team and is involved with the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp and Rangers.

Michelle entered the residential school right from kindergarten. It was a little harder for Michelle to leave us every morning for school as she was the only kindergarten in the class and there was no one to play with—just a teacher. By the second semester a few other children joined the class and Michelle wasn't quite so unhappy. She didn't feel comfortable being away from familiar surroundings.

Michelle is also attending a cooperative program at the public and residential schools and is meeting with success. She is very active at school and chooses to stay overnight when special events occur.

Bryan and Michelle both are being allowed to have their say about their placements. Michelle feels she wants to complete her senior year at the same school and graduate with her friends. Both feel good about themselves and are comfortable about their placement. They both have plans to attend college; because of their successes in their placements, they feel they'll be ready.

We have never told Bryan and Michelle they can't do something because they're visually impaired. We tell them, "Try. If you find some legitimate reason that your vision limits you (such as driving a car) accept that, then get on with whatever else you can and want to do." □□□

A POSTSCRIPT FROM BRYAN . . . AND MICHELLE

My name is Bryan Hudson. I am 16 years old and have been legally blind since birth. I guess I've never learned being visually impaired bother me to the extent that I consider myself only capable of doing certain things and not going after what I really want in life, or even just doing what I want. I spent 10 years at the state school and this year I decided that I was ready to go back and enter into the public school system again.

I found the hardest thing for me in transferring to Beloit Memorial is being accepted by the other students. I haven't had any problems academically, but there have been many times that I have walked by and heard someone say "Hey, there goes that kid that can't see." There have also been times that I've been laughed at for the way I read. I have pretty much been accepted by my classmates and am treated just like anyone else.

I don't let my eyes hold me back from something I really want to try or do. Although I'm not able to drive which can be a real pain in the butt now that I'm almost 17, I get involved in all sorts of sports, such as hunting, fishing, downhill and cross-country skiing, wrestling, track, waterskiing, and my most favorite, swimming. I've been involved competitively in swimming for about six years now. Right now I'm on our high school swim team.

I don't know about other visually impaired people my age, but I think right now is probably the toughest time for me to deal with my vision problems. I guess the most important thing for parents is to be as understanding as possible with their kids so they can deal with it and not let it get in the way of doing as much as they possibly can with their lives and becoming successful at doing something they really want to do. □□□

My name is Michelle Hudson. I am 14 and a freshman at the Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped. I enjoy school very much.

Some of the activities I am involved in at school are swimming, cheerleading and drama. I also play the piano and violin. I have many interests in the field of athletics. I recently participated in the USABA national games in Montana. I competed in swimming and did very well. I plan on going to the national games in 1984 in St. Louis, MO so that I could possibly be chosen for the international games in New York.

I also enjoy collecting things, especially stuffed animals and different types of dolls.

Most people ask me what it's like to be visually impaired. I just try to explain to them that I'm no different than they are—it's just that I can't see as well. □□□

A "HIDDEN" HANDICAP

Name Withheld on Request

I am the mother of a multihandicapped child. There are no wires coming out of my daughter's ears, no wheelchair to worry about, nothing except thick glasses to mar the beauty of her translucent skin and auburn hair.

The problems are deeper, buried in the emotions, for whatever reason. Perhaps it had to do with being the last child in a family beset by handicaps, perhaps it was the result of too many hospitalizations under traumatic conditions, perhaps as a parent I just wasn't there for her enough when she needed me. "Perhaps" goes round and round.

(Continued on Page 5)

MESHING TWO VIEWPOINTS

By SUZANNE BENINTEND BAKER, L.P.T.

As a result of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 all schools in my area began programming, not only for the more involved children in the community, but for those in institutions as well.

My program included students with a wide range of problems, but perhaps the most heartbreaking "stories" belonged to those who had developmental delays caused by institutionalization and lack of appropriate stimulation. I began to realize, watching them, that the more seriously impaired a child was, the more difficult it became for his/her caregivers to get feedback as to the needs and wants of the child. The institutional staff appeared to be content to provide custodial care for those whose involvement prohibited them from demanding more. I will never forget the day an institution employee said, "Please don't teach her to walk; she'll only be more trouble."

Obviously, as a physical therapist, I was most aware of the needs of these children from a therapeutic standpoint. Positioning and handling techniques were important to prevent deformity, thus making care easier as the child grew. I had worked with children from institutions, small group homes and those still at home and had observed an almost universal positive response to a gentle touch, a kind word, patience and consistency. Still, I was a therapist, often questioning why there didn't seem to be carryover of my program at home, why it seemed that families lost patience when I was so sure that if everyone persevered, things would improve. Since then I've learned that progress is a little more complicated and that a vast array of factors can affect it.

This past year I gave birth to a son with Down's syndrome and a severe heart defect. I've become aware, through contact with other parents, how painful it can be when a circle of doctors, teachers and therapists tell you what to do to help your child, but rarely acknowledge the importance of pure motherly acceptance. I've listened to both horror and glory stories about the successes and failures of multihandicapped children—as though they can all be lumped into a common group with the same level of functioning. I've seen how very true it is that a child can perform a task at home, but not in a therapeutic setting.

I've also learned how hard it is to balance all parts of one's life with the needs of a handicapped child.

More than ever, I see the importance of families and professionals working together. Perhaps, from my experience, I can provide food for thought to both groups.

Whereas the parent may contribute love and concern, the professional should provide objectivity and experience. Although there is a tendency among professionals to generalize and classify children for research, funding and program purposes, they must realize that each child is an individual.

Also, professionals must keep in mind the occasionally overwhelming pressure of caring for a multihandicapped child 24 hours a day. The family cannot jump in the car to go shopping without some advance planning; babysitters are not readily available; diapers for a 12-year-old are expensive—and the refreshment of an untroubled sleep is not possible.

Parents, on the other hand, have the responsibility to speak out for their child. They know what is rewarding

and pleasurable to the child; how and when he can be encouraged to interact with his environment; what discipline is effective. Parents have contact with their child's physicians, teachers and therapists and can act as a liaison between them all. Parents must help the professional see the child, not as a single entity, but as a part of a family system that is effected by, as well as effecting to, changes.

Perhaps communication could be helped if it were possible for professionals to routinely visit homes to plan programming. Work should be done where the child lives the majority of his day, not necessarily where the elaborate equipment is.

But in spite of the many different degrees of involvement with a multihandicapped child, both parent and professional share one common characteristic: they are human! Neither group can act as "gods" to make all things right. There will be good days and bad days; there will be dreams and frustrations. Both the parent and the professional knows what he/she can give to the child—hopefully, it will be his/her best. To paraphrase an Indian prayer, "Let me not judge a man until I have spent a month in his moccasins." □□□

A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE HANDICAPPED

By MICHAEL A. ALEXANDER, M.D.
Medical Director, D.T. Watson Rehabilitation Hospital and
clinical professor, University of Pittsburgh

I feel I have unique credentials in the rehabilitation of children. After medical school I did a training program in pediatrics and also in physical medicine and rehabilitation, becoming boarded in both. My best credentials, however, come from having had polio at age three, then growing up in the able-bodied world with a significant physical disability.

Over those years, I experienced a number of situations, including the difficulties of being a new disabled child in a regular public school, of suffering the indignity of being bussed with much more severely disabled children of my school, of being closeted away for a number of years from extracurricular activities—and from my peers.

As I look back at the sum total of my development and the sheltered situations I was placed in and allowed to grow in, I feel that those times of achievement allowed me to develop a coping strategy that now allows me to function as a medical director of a hospital, a husband, friend of many able-bodied individuals and a father of two children. At this point, it sounds as though I have come out in favor of cloistering the handicapped away from the able-bodied, so that they can, at least, have a more meaningful life among their peers. I am not, but I am suggesting that when one doesn't do that, then it is up to the system to provide opportunities for success and development of self-esteem through achievements for all children. Art and other cultural competitions as well as the special olympics have gone a long way toward giving handicapped children a chance to succeed, without isolating them in institutions.

Every handicapped child, at some point, deserves the chance to belong in the real world; but I acknowledge that some will not be able to belong in any sense of the word to anything but the most sheltered of nurturing environments.

(Continued on Page 6)

THE JOURNEY TOWARD QUALITY CARE

By JOYCE FLORA, O.T.R.
Occupational and Physical Therapies, Manager
Western PA School/Blind, Pittsburgh

I am always distraught when I have occasion to see an "older" population of multihandicapped people . . . folks 30 or 40, who in all probability did not have the advantage of "early intervention." Looking upon them, usually in facilities that can care for their intense and diverse physical needs, I wonder about the families of those individuals—the mothers and fathers who had not the benefit of skilled social workers, sensitive physicians, support groups (like NAPVI) that could help them cope with the devastating news of a severely handicapped child. I wonder if, even now, given the sophisticated procedures and technology we have to identify the obvious and potential problems of the multihandicapped, we (especially the medical community) are aware, knowledgeable and skillful enough to treat this small fraction of the population whose needs are so great? To the doctor who chooses to work with the multihandicapped goes my deepest respect; in some ways he/she abandons the traditional euphamistic goals of "making well" for a population in which there is little "getting better," just long-term adjustments, different options to explore, repeated hurdles to jump and idealistic therapists and teachers to compromise with.

I question what we, the education and medical "specialists," are doing toward establishing our ethical and moral framework, as well as continuing our "learning" to prepare us to keep on working with special children and families. The kids won't always be kids—cute, hugable, responsive. What are we doing to further our understanding, knowledge of the projected needs of the kids, of the families, the frustrations as the children grow but don't change, or "plateau" at levels far below our hopes and expectations? Are we skillful enough to educate—not with technical teams and prestigious theories—families into an awareness of probabilities, options, choices, that they may face while living with a "damaged child." Are we drawing from our experience and expertise and realistically identifying the positives and negatives of long-term care and education?

The fact remains that "special needs" children, those with motor, communication and/or adaptive behavior difficulties, are still thrust upon a relatively uneducated, unexposed society that is intolerant (or fearful?) of the less than "perfect" . . .

I think we have to be honest with ourselves as teachers, parents, therapists and admit that handicapped kids ARE sometimes tough to look at, to work with . . . that there is stress and fatigue, anger and frustration, as well as the caring and the loving.

Part of the process of educating and treating those kids is to know their limits and our own, and to be a non-judgmental support system for one another as we progress in our journey of commitment toward "quality care."

I wonder if it's time to abandon some of the traditions in our definition of "education," to look again and question the chronological limits set as the years in which "education" or development takes place. We've learned the benefit (and necessity) of extended year programming. Is it time to build that in as a routine component of special education? Is it time to work on model programs, group homes for the multihandi-

capped; to do cost-effective marketing studies of the kinds of care needed, the most efficient way to provide and monitor that care? And is it time to redefine educational/medical funding? We fund rehabilitation why not Habilitation? Why not the acquisition of life skills, not only the re-acquisition of those skills after a trauma? □□□

JOSHUA "TALKS" TO HIS MOM

By FAY COREY

Mom, it's really hard getting my needs known, since I can't talk. So, sometimes, I make a big "fuss" and cry—and people get upset with me because they think I'm being bad. It's the only way I know to get my message across, but some of the people tell you and Daddy that it's not acceptable behavior for me to get mad and cry. I wonder what these people would do if they couldn't talk? How would they act if they were aware of things happening around them but couldn't talk?

You know, Mom, I have feelings that get hurt, especially when people talk to you and ignore me, sitting in my wheelchair along side of you. I really like it, Mom, when you always include me in the conversation and ask me to throw a kiss to the person who doesn't acknowledge me. When we have quiet times together, you always say, "Joshua, you must learn patience. All handicapped people in this world have to have lots of patience. You'll wait your turn for many things throughout your lifetime and you'll wait until people have the time to help you." Mom, you're so right! Now that I'm ten years old, I'm learning not to cry (most of the time) while waiting for my meals to be fed to me; and not to extend in my wheelchair waiting for the van to take me to school. It's hard learning to be patient, Mom, but I'm trying!

Sometimes I get lonely when you're busy washing my clothes and getting the meals ready and Daddy's at work. The kids in the neighborhood used to come by often for storytime and cookies with me, but they're older now and go off and play ball and stuff. Maybe some new younger kids will move in down the street who'll like hearing you read stories to us.

Guess you know, Mom, the hardest times for me are when I have therapies to help my muscles and body tone. It hurts sometimes and people are always doing things to me. When I'm sick and you take me to the doctor, it's scary. I don't know what they are going to do, but you always tell me to be brave, so I smile and in a while I start to feel okay. I don't understand when you say I give you strength.

My best times are at school, during music and sensory time, when I play in soap suds; and when I have friends who like me. I like it when Daddy calls me his "best" buddy and we all go on "adventures" to the zoo or to the park or just a long push around our neighborhood. I hear lots of sounds and smell neat things.

You always tell me, Mom, that all you want me to be is happy and healthy. You know that I try my hardest to be the best I can be, because I know that you and Daddy love me for what I am, not for what I can do. □□□

"I feel NAPVI is important because it keeps parents informed of their children's rights and the current events that effect visually impaired people." (Arkansas) □□□

CROSS-SECTION OF NAPVI BOARD (OFFICERS AND MEMBERS) — 1984

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Jacqueline Carroll President | 393 Broad Street Salamanca, NY 14779 716/945-2116 | Tom, age 16, Retinal Blastoma Braille Student Public School, Grade 11 |
| Elaine Puryear Vice President | 5601 Driftwood Austin, TX 78731 512/345-7891 | Richard, age 9, Retinal Dyplasia Braille Student Public School, Grade 3 |
| Linda Katskee Secretary | 16634 Cedar Circle Omaha, NE 68144 402/334-0430 | Melissa, age 9, Lebers Amnerosis Braille Student Public School, Grade 3 |
| Henry Hedgecock Treasurer | 1776B Frick Avenue Charleston, SC 29404 803/552-3456 | Craig, age 13, RFL Braille Student Public School, Grade 6 |
| Laura Vidal Region I | 206-16 86th Road Queens, NY 11427 212/776-7541 | Orlando, age 11, RFL Braille Student Public School |
| Fay Corey Region II | 508 Lloyd Street Pittsburgh, PA 15208 412/371-4484 | Joshua, age 10, Multihandicapped (CP, mentally delayed, cortical blindness) Day Student at Residential School |
| Eileen Hudson Region III | 2180 Linway Beloit, WI 53511 608/362-1380 | Bryan, age 16, and Michelle, age 14 Both have macular degeneration Bryan, Public School, and Michelle, Residential School |
| Mary Lou Wilkinson Region IV | 500 Laughrun Drive Forrest City, AR 72335 501/633-2737 | David, age 17, Optic Nerve Atrophy Braille Student, Residential School for ten years Public School, Grade 11 |
| Jeanie Flack Region V | 323 Westgate Boulevard Billings, MT 59101 | Kenny, age 12, and Randy, age 6 — RFL Kenny—Braille Student, and Randy—Large Print Attended Residential School, now Public School |
| Judith Stotland Region VI | 12642 Morrison Street N. Hollywood, CA 91607 213/763-1759 | David, age 9, Cataracts and Glaucoma Low Vision—Large Print Reader Parochial School with Public School Services, Grade 4 |
| Liz Hartman At-Large | 9014 Blue Quail Austin, TX 78758 512/836-7022 | Sam, age 8, Anterior Cleavage Syndrome Braille Student, Second Grade Public School, Grade 2 |

A "HIDDEN" HANDICAP

(Continued on Page 2)

The pain I suffered when personnel at the school district insisted we approve the classification "emotionally disturbed" was intense. I had learned to deal with blindness, but this was horrible! How could I ever come to live with that label? And yet, when my daughter settled into that highly structured, smaller classroom, she thrived and gradually many of the tensions at home just faded. She had found her niche and herself, and now I must accept it. I was learning to deal with a "hidden" handicap.

One of my biggest problems has been coping with the "Vanilla Blind" attitude that I share with many parents of multihandicapped children—these feelings that the world is all too eager to teach blind children how to use computers, or how to ski down mountain slopes, or even how to become corporate lawyers—just don't ask them to deal with someone who is not gifted. I've come a long way in working through these negative feelings through NAPVI, by belonging to an organization of parents of all sorts of blind children. I have come to realize that the young mother whose four-month-old baby is about to have surgery for crossed eyes might not be as involved with problems for as long as I have been, but her immediate need for reassurance in the midst of

her pain, anguish and fear is just as real to her as my need to come to grips with an additional handicap was.

In these tight-money times how can any of us afford to envy other parents or to waste time wishing some things weren't the case? NAPVI's greatest challenge is to meld courageously parents together, whether the children involved are preschool age or college bound; whether those children operate a wheelchair or wield a cane—it really doesn't matter. NAPVI is an organization to help parents, selfish as that sounds. It's important for my new friend facing the prospect of surgery for her baby to know that someone else has sat in a waiting room in similar circumstances waiting for a doctor to appear—and that that someone cares! We need to give each other hope—and when NAPVI can be a means of providing some of that precious commodity to every parent of a visually impaired child, it will have achieved the measure of its creation. □ □ □

"I am a low-vision adult. I wish your organization was in existence during the 1950's and 60's to have assisted my parents. I believe they could have benefited from the support, advocacy and fellowship of your network. There was a lot they could have shared with other families." (South Carolina) □ □ □

SHANNA LYNN

By CARYN STICHLER
Omaha, Nebraska

Shanna Lynn was born barely two years ago, although it seems much longer than that since we've been through so much together. She was born with schlera corneas and microthalmic eyes. Translated, this means that she has small eyes with a cloudy film covering them. Remembering back to the beginning brings all those feelings of hope, despair and anger at this fate of birth. "Why, God, would you do this to my child?" and "What have I done to cause this?" These were the questions I wanted answered. To this day we do not know what caused her blindness, but we accept, knowing God will enlighten us with His reason one day.

Shanna had a cornea transplant on her right eye when she was only 2½ months old. I had placed all my hopes on this surgery, thinking that with a clear cornea she might be able to see; but her retina detached during surgery and she is now totally blind in that eye.

After the outcome of the surgery, after all of the tears had been shed, I came to terms with the fact that my baby was blind. My husband and I were determined to bring her up to be as happy and normal as any other child. The first things I did were to contact the Social Service Department, order books to aid me in

Shanna's upbringing, become a NAPVI member and contact the Omaha Public Schools. The very day we got home from the hospital I told all of my family that we wanted and needed their love and support, but we did not want their pity. Anyone who knows our



healthy, rambunctious, bright little two-year-old Shanna cannot feel pity.

Omaha Public Schools assigned Shanna a homebound teacher for the visually impaired. Nancy, often accom-

panied by a speech pathologist, came to our house for two hours weekly. They monitored Shanna and were able to instruct me on how I could best help Shanna develop at a normal pace. It is amazing how they could show us that, through play and daily routine, Shanna could learn many necessary skills. Their guidance helped Shanna learn to do many things I would not have thought of doing with her. Shanna can get around the house as well as anyone. She can get up in her highchair, climb on her rocking horse, play with her blocks—she is learning how to manipulate more toys all of the time. She knows every nursery rhyme and song and is genuinely a typically active two-year-old child.

Shanna was placed in a mother-infant program and then placed this year in a play-group type atmosphere. During play-group the mothers are separated from their children. The children are in a classroom with two teachers where they play and learn to socialize with others. I believe that socializing is the most difficult thing to get blind children to do.

We joined the Omaha Parents of the Visually Impaired and became active in it. This has helped me tremendously to see all of these well-adjusted families and to know that we are not alone—and in many ways very lucky.

I still have hope that Shanna may have some vision in her left eye. She is scheduled to have another cornea transplant this spring, but I no longer live on hope because I know she will make it, no matter what happens. Next year she will enter a preschool program which will prepare her to enter a public kindergarten class. I feel that Shanna is a very lucky little girl to have so many people around her who love her so much. I also feel very fortunate to have such a supportive husband, wonderful parents and family, terrific friends and a great school system, all of which have made the adjustment so much easier. Belonging to NAPVI and our own local organization is an added support bonus.

It is hard to believe that only two short years ago everything seemed so desolate. Today I believe Shanna's future holds a great deal of promise. □□□

A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE HANDICAPPED

(Continued on Page 3)

In regard to the options for parents to become knowledgeable in the management of their children, there are several very important issues. At this time our whole society is undergoing a change in how it looks at the medical system. There are cries of restraint of competition, alternate lifestyles, and choices of non-traditional therapy. Parents are confronted with megavitamin therapies, cranial manipulation and a host of other suggested treatments for disabled children. If a parent comes from the standpoint of realizing that science is science, that clinical art is clinical art, and that black magic is black magic, they have a reasonable chance at working their way through all of the information.

To be knowledgeable is going to require reading and thinking. There are excellent books and journals being developed and prepared for parents of children with different disabilities. There is the EXCEPTIONAL PARENT MAGAZINE. There are books written by professionals for parents, such as HANDLING THE CHILD WITH CEREBRAL PALSY by Finney. Eugene Bleck

has written an excellent book for educators on varying disabilities; all of these are prepared in a way that do not require extensive medical education to understand.

In addition to your reading, ask questions. If you have a physician or therapist, or educator who is intimidated or put off by your questions about your child, find others who are not intimidated. Remember, doctor means "teacher." Sure, we are busy; sure, we may not have time, but we are in the business of providing information as well as services. If your questions were not answered this visit, write them down and bring them back next visit—persist!

Also, never be afraid to ask for a second opinion.

Finally, seek out parents of children with similar disabilities. Meet with them and talk with them. Find out who they take their children to. Find out how they have been treated in the past. Give yourself every opportunity to look at the future through the eyes of parents who have already lived through your present. Hopefully, you will then be willing to help those who come after you. □□□

MONEY IN THE BANK

By Lee Robinson, Executive Director

In this issue of AWARENESS we have included a list of those who have made donations to NAPVI since the 1985 membership drive began (November 1984). This includes any amounts in addition to membership dues or purchases for materials. Each contribution is very much appreciated.

The donations from our membership help in two important ways. First, the funds are badly needed to pay the bills. Printing, mailing, phone calls, workshops, books, and meetings all take money and are the major ways donations are used. Second, when foundations and agencies see that NAPVI has the support of its members they are more willing to give grants for special projects. NAPVI will be more successful in obtaining funds because of the support from our members.

Because we have never been rich NAPVI has always made money stretch as far as possible. Perhaps you were not aware that each of the Board members and the executive director are serving on a volunteer basis. Only actual expenses for services are reimbursed. This means that many days off work, which otherwise might have been vacation days, have been donated to NAPVI in order to let the dollars available go directly for support, information and services to families. Each of these people have also generously contributed equipment, phone calls, time and many talents.

The accomplishments of NAPVI include producing AWARENESS, five publications, (including our latest *Your Child's InFoRMation Journal*) sponsoring numerous meetings, increasing membership each year, and helping many families find information and services that help them and their children. In addition to these more tangible services, foundations for the future, including bylaws, office procedures and a national office, affiliation procedures, and planning processes, have been laid. These will help assure success for the future efforts of the organization.

With the continued support from all our members NAPVI's future looks bright. The Board of Directors has planned many activities and projects which only wait for funding and talent to accomplish. Perhaps the most exciting is the first national conference scheduled for November 1986 in Dallas, Texas. Y'all come! Other services include hotline service, additional publications, information for state legislators and doctors about our needs, etc. We will continue to make the most of the financial resources available.

Dr. Barry Brazelton, in his book *Infants and Mothers*, speaks of the time spent working with young children as "money in the bank" for their child's future success. What may seem like a small or unimportant routine pro-



vides valuable support to the child. The same principle applies to the support NAPVI receives. During the past five years many people have invested their time, talents and money. These contributions have provided support for the day to day operation of NAPVI. They

have also strengthened NAPVI's ability to help even more people in the future. Thanks to each of you for your support.

FOR SERVICE TO PARENTS

Pauline M. Moor, who has spent a lifetime teaching young children and parents, is the 1985 recipient of NAPVI's Outstanding Contribution Award.

Miss Moor began her career as an elementary school teacher before joining the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary to work on a project sponsored by the Foundation for Vision which studied, over a number of years, the development of young blind children with retrolental fibroplasia. She served as the child development specialist on a team of researchers.

She later joined the staff of the American Foundation for the Blind as a specialist in child development.

Miss Moor is the author of numerous articles and publications, including "No Place to Go," which discusses problems of multiply impaired children and "A Blind Child Too Can Go To Nursery School." She has been a longtime leader in the mainstreaming movement.

Over the years Miss Moor has taught many blind and visually impaired children and been a source of help to their parents. Her counsel to parents has always been to become as well informed as possible, to give the child a variety of experiences and to keep expectations high for the child.

Previous recipients have been Katherine Maxfield, Josephine Taylor and Berthold Lowenfeld.

Board Elections

New NAPVI Board members will soon be elected for Regions II and IV. See inside article and become a part of this important democratic function.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Annual elections to the NAPVI Board of Directors will take place in September. However, NOW is the time to place nominations. A new member will be elected from Regions II (Ohio, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia), now represented by Fay Corey of Pittsburgh and Region IV (Tennessee, Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida, South Carolina), now represented by Mary Lou Wilkinson of Arkansas.

Those interested should secure a Nominee Fact Sheet from Nominations Committee Chairperson Diana Cuthbertson, 21 Milford Street, Boston, MA 02118 (Tel. 617-426-5567) and return it NO LATER than June 27.

The fact sheet should be accompanied by three letters of reference (including one from a professional source, such as a teacher, principal, clergyman, civic or charitable leader or medical contact).

Nominees for the election will receive notification from the committee informing them of their nomination, pending interview with the current board member from the region involved and the necessity to submit a letter of intent to serve on the board if elected.

Ballots will be mailed only to the voting members (parent/family) in Regions II and IV.

CRITERIA

1. Must be the parent of a visually impaired child.
2. Must be a member of NAPVI/National for one year.
3. Must be actively involved in areas associated with the visually impaired, such as, but not limited to parent organizations on a local or state level, state school or local school PTO or PTA or other community groups that can help increase awareness and support parents of the visually impaired.
4. Must be able to attend all board meetings and other required NAPVI/National functions. (Travel expenses are reimbursed.)
5. Must hold office for the term elected or until a successor has been selected and qualified. Present members may succeed themselves.

WORKSHOP? MEETING? LECTURE?

To announce in *Awareness* use the following calendar:

| Issue | Received in | Deadline for Submitting | Events to Occur |
|--------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Winter | January | Dec. 1 | Feb/Mar/Apr |
| Spring | April | Mar. 15 | May/June/July |
| Summer | July | June 15 | Aug/Sept/Oct |
| Fall | October | Sept. 15 | Nov/Dec/Jan |

Please submit complete information typed and double spaced, if possible. The editor reserves the right to determine what is published and to edit materials submitted.

SHOPPING BAG

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about their item with the NAPVI membership. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion.

VISION RESOURCE LIST, Vision Foundation, Inc. announces publication of the seventh edition of its popular VISION RESOURCE LIST. More than 150 items, most of them free, which have been gathered nationwide, are listed. There are 36 items new to the list since its last revision in 1982. Resources include brochures, sample magazines, catalogs, cookbooks, and other materials in print, braille, large print, disc and cassette. Not every item is available in all media. The VISION RESOURCE LIST is available free in single copies, in large print and on cassette. Order from: Vision Foundation, Inc., 2 Mt. Auburn Street, Watertown, MA 02172. Toll free number: 1-800-852-3029. Specify large print or cassette.

* * *

POPULAR COMPUTING magazine is available for the first time in braille to NLS readers. This monthly magazine was selected for the program because it provides a wide variety of articles and features which will interest a broad audience, from home computer enthusiasts to professionals. For a free subscription to POPULAR COMPUTING in braille, contact your cooperating library or National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20542.

* * *

BATTERY OPERATED TOYS FOR THE SEVERELY HANDICAPPED. A brochure listing battery operated toys for the severely handicapped and books about making these devices is available from: Linda J. Burkhardt, 8503 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740. Send for a brochure and learn about "Simplified Technology for the Severely Handicapped."

(Ed. Note: Parents of multiply-handicapped children take special note. Ms. Burkhardt demonstrated her ability to make low-cost toys with simplified techniques and "awed" the audience at the APH Convention in Louisville last fall.)

* * *

THE EXCEPTIONAL PARENT magazine serves parents and professionals concerned with care of children with all handicapping conditions (mental, physical, emotional, and learning). Yearly subscriptions (eight issues) are available at \$16 for individuals and \$24 for organizations, schools, and libraries. For more information or to order, write to THE EXCEPTIONAL PARENT, 605 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Anyone wishing to help NAPVI is invited to make tax deductible contributions. Please send them to the national office.

P.O.Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

REPRESENTING YOU

Region I Board member Diana Cuthbertson of 21 Milford Street, Boston, MA, has recently logged many hours on behalf of NAPVI. In February she served as a discussant for AFB's Social Research Seminar on LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ON THE PRE-SCHOOL BLIND CHILD. Dr. Kay Ferrell, AFB liaison to the NAPVI Board, led the discussion.

In March Diana gave a presentation entitled *Baby Dance* (a whole movement of mobility which she has promised to write about for an upcoming edition of *AWARENESS*) at the New England Regional Seminar for Families of Preschool Blind and Visually Impaired Children. This was the second annual seminar for the New England Region with goals of presenting the need for parent support groups. Board member Gail Granados also attended the meeting.

Diana also represented NAPVI at a parent meeting in Portland, Maine, recently.

Gail Granados, who in addition to being Board-Member-at-Large for NAPVI/National is also president of the Connecticut Parents Association, reports that their group held a very successful parent weekend in February, with excellent presentations by Drs. Phil and Sally Mangold of California.

AFB Leadership Conference was attended by Judi Stotland, Henry Hedgecock and Eileen Hudson. Gale Hedgecock writes that there is recognition of the gap in services between school and the job. AFB, with the help of the federal government, parents and professionals, hopes to close this gap on the state level.

The Arkansas Association for Visually Impaired Children and Youth Inc. held its annual spring meeting and workshop Saturday, April 13 in Little Rock. Board members and officers were elected and two educational sessions for parents were held. A slate of speakers included a "Who's Who" in the education of and delivery of services to visually impaired children in Arkansas.

AWARENESS NOW AVAILABLE ON TAPE

All those wishing to receive *AWARENESS* on cassette should notify the NAPVI office. We will provide the first tape and then record over it with the next edition when we receive the first tape back. Or, the member may wish to supply his/her own tapes for use. This service is made possible through the help of Recordings for the Blind and the Visually Impaired Veterans of America, Randolph Greene, President.

IN SEARCH OF "STARS"

One of NAPVI's projects for the near future is to design and build a traveling display featuring "our" children. To do this, we're going to need the help of our membership. We invite you to send a colored picture of your visually impaired child in to our national office.

NAPVI already has one display describing its services and goals which travels to various meetings around the country. The display was designed by NAPVI Executive Director Lee Robinson.

Our national office, which occupies space with several businesses, has a NAPVI Bulletin Board, where pictures and clippings are also needed.

All pictures and clippings must become the property of NAPVI, as we won't accept items "on loan" due to the problem involved in returning them □□□

PUBLIC LAW 94-142: A comprehensive law setting forth the fundamental rights necessary to ensure that *all* handicapped children receive the free, appropriate public education (in the least restrictive and most normal environment possible) to which they are entitled.

* * *

SECTION 504: Requires local school districts receiving federal funds of any kind to provide an appropriate education to all handicapped children within their jurisdiction . . . and presently, nearly every school district in the country receives some federal funding.

ADVOCACY CYCLE

(Excerpt from *SELF ADVOCACY: HOW TO BE A WINNER*, from *The National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth*, Nov. 1984).

The Self-advocacy Cycle is very much like a life cycle. Just as we go through different stages of development in our lives, parents go through different stages in advocating for their handicapped child/adult.

The Self-advocacy Cycle is made up of four stages. The first is the Targeting stage wherein you decide whether or not you are satisfied with how your child/adult is developing and your family is functioning, and what specifically is needed to help your child/adult to develop and/or your family to function more appropriately. It is a time in which parents seek out support and advice from friends and neighbors to help identify and obtain needed services; a time when parents seek out parent support groups to discuss their concerns with other parents.

The Preparation Stage is a time when parents learn information needed to communicate to professionals working with the child/adult. It is also a time when parents become familiar with the laws pertaining to the rights of handicapped persons.

The Influencing Stage is the point when you use the information gained during the Preparation Stage to mobilize professionals into acting on your requests for services. It involves acting effectively in face to face and telephone meetings, effective written communication, and organized record keeping.

The final stage of the advocacy cycle is the Follow-up Stage. This stage involves an assessment by the self-advocate of the services which are being received to assure quality outcomes. Follow-up activities are conducted to answer the question, "Am I satisfied with the services which are being delivered?"

The Self-advocacy Cycle is just that . . . a cycle. There is no end to the process of self-advocacy. Self-advocates must reassess their needs and the services available to meet their needs on an ongoing basis. Each stage in a person's development potentially means new needs, new decisionmakers to influence, and new follow-up visits. Being a truly effective self-advocate is not an easy task! It demands tenacity and perseverance. In the words of one of the parents whom we interviewed, "Irritants make pearls."

Education for Handicapped: Who Pays?

(Ed. Note: This article appeared on the editorial page of the *Arkansas Democrat*, March 1985. Readers are encouraged to write your Senators (Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510) and Congressmen (House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515) urging their support to legislation requiring losing school systems to pay attorney's fees for parents who sue successfully.)

Ten years ago, Congress enacted a law guaranteeing all handicapped children a "free, appropriate public education." Millions of families have collected on that promise, but for some the price has been high indeed.

The landmark 1975 law, known as PL 94-142 (its public law number), requested schools to work out individualized educational plans for all handicapped children and provided new aid to states that complied.

The law set up special administrative procedures for resolving disagreements between school systems and parents about what constitutes an "appropriate" plan for a particular child. When those procedures are exhausted, disputes can be brought to court.

Last year, however, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 in the case of *Smith v. Robinson* that parents who prevail in court cases aimed at forcing school systems to live up to the law are not entitled to have their attorneys' fees paid. Some lower courts had allowed parents to recover legal costs under related laws barring discrimination against the handicapped, but the Supreme Court majority held that Congress intended PL 94-142 to be the exclusive legal avenue for enforcing the education rights of handicapped children.

The justices concluded that Congress did not authorize attorneys' fees awards in that law because it recognized "the financial burden already imposed on the state by the responsibility of providing education for handicapped children."

The effect of the ruling, however, was to leave parents with a Hobson's choice: Live with an unacceptable educational plan or spend thousands of dollars in legal fees to pursue a court ruling that may or may not be favorable.

"It is at best ironic," said the three dissenting justices, "that the court has managed to impose this burden on handicapped children in course of interpreting a statute wholly intended to promote the educational rights of those children."

A bipartisan effort has since been mounted in Congress to overturn last year's Supreme Court decision. Action is expected this spring on legislation to require losing school systems to pay the attorney's fees of parents who sue successfully.

Congress intended the law's protections, including litigation rights, to be available to "all parents, not just the unusually well informed or the wealthy," said Sen. Lowell P. Weicker Jr., R-Conn., chief sponsor of the fees legislation.

"When attorneys are aware that fees are available, they are just not as interested in solving the problem," said Linus Wright, superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District. "In fact, they're much more likely to draw out the process rather than make any valid attempt to seek a speedy solution."

But backers of the bill said that disputes over education of the handicapped usually do not reach the courts. In 1983-84, only one of every 65,000 handicapped children was involved in litigation, said Rep. Pat Williams,

D-Mont., a leading sponsor of the attorney's fee legislation.

Legislation pending in the House would authorize courts to award attorneys' fees to successful parents only for litigation costs, administrative proceedings—limit opposed by advocates for the disabled but supported by the National School Boards Association and other school administrators.

LITIGATION



WHEREAS, as parents of children with visual impairments, we are obligated to do our best to obtain appropriate educational services for our children and,

WHEREAS, in some circumstances after our best attempts at communication and cooperation it becomes necessary to resort to judicial remedies to establish the appropriateness of specific services and, WHEREAS, parents who prevail in such proceedings could reasonably hope that their hardships not be compounded by legal costs, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAVPI), at its annual meeting in Austin, Texas, in November 1984, support the passage of legislation providing for the recovery of costs and attorneys' fees by parents who prevail in litigation against school districts on behalf of their children

And a Child . . .

*All of my life I could see,
That is to say, my eyes
Reflected to my mind the skies,
The earth, the people close to me,
But, I have never seen
The softness of a flower, green grass fresh mowed,
Caressing the toes of me.*

*All of my life, I could see
But only with my eyes. Seems we are
All that way; wrapped in dreams
Our minds closed to their own sight reflections,
We stumble forth in non-direct directions
Not even caring if we see.*

*But I have found
All my life I could not see.
But I have a daughter reaching me.
She holds a leaf and she beholds a tree.
She reaches forth to catch the wind
And I reach down to take her hand
And hold the universe.
She's never seen a smile,
But smile she does and lights the darkest
Corners of my heart and mind
And each new day I find,
I am a little less blind.*

—A.R. Mooers

When Parental Aim Is High

LACEY THEN . . .

(From an article in the Daily Breeze (Torrance, California, July 3, 1983.)

Lacey's world is enveloped in darkness and her voice is stifled by a tracheotomy.

Unlike other two-year-olds, the Torrance toddler cannot mimic her parents by watching them nor can she tell mommy or daddy what it's like to be scared or insecure. Even her sobs are muffled by the artificial hole that prevents her vocal chords from vibrating.

But Lacey Knepper is unique, a "miracle baby," born 14 weeks premature at 1 pound, 3½ ounces, a determined child who battled numerous bacterial infections and endured multiple blood transfusions that gave life to her tiny body.

Newspapers often tell of infants like Lacey, but no one hears what happens after the happy homecoming, when parents are left to deal with the effects of an early birth. This is a special story — for Jennifer and Dennis Knepper radiate love into a daughter's world hindered by a lack of sight and speed, but countered by overwhelming tenderness and heartwarming care.

"It's a miracle she's here in the first place, said Dennis, a 37-year-old truck driver. "There's a reason she's here. I think God has a purpose for her. She certainly hasn't disappointed us."

Her life has been one of struggle—from her first six months at Torrance Memorial Hospital—to her current classes, where she is the youngest in preschool at the Blind Children's Center in Hollywood.

At 20 pounds and 30 inches, she celebrated her second birthday, a testimonial to her will to survive, her parents say. Medical professionals attribute much to her family, which includes two sisters, 3 and 7 months, and two stepbrothers, 8 and 9.

"This family was extremely supportive of her," said Beth Marshall, nursing manager of Torrance Memorial's newborn and special care nursery. "It's unusual to see a father bond as well as this one did. He made the time to come in and be with her. It gave me goosebumps."

The Kneppers visited Lacey daily, and her father remembers how she had "a head the size of a small orange, a foot under 1-inch long and a 13-inch body when she was stretched out."

"The hardest part was waiting for the day we could pick her up and hold her," he said.

It's been a long road for Lacey, who weighed 5 pounds, 12½ ounces, when she came home New Year's Day 1982.

Her arms and feet still have marks from the needles that brought 41 pints of blood into her body and cleansed out infections during her first six months. Her back shows vague evidence of staph infection that once left her body bloodied with open sores. And her resistance has been lowered, especially after battling pneumonia five times, the last when she was hospitalized in November.

She was left blinded when her retinas were scarred by long exposure to oxygen during the time she was in an incubator. When she was 4 months old, her parents were told she could not see at all in her left eye but had light perception in the other.

"We had never even thought about it," Dennis said. "That was really hard on us."

The two sought help from the Blind Children's Center, where they received family counseling.

The plastic tube from the respirator Lacey was hooked to for 3½ months prevented her windpipe from expanding and, at 5 months old, an artificial hole was cut in her trachea so she could breathe. Doctors say her throat muscles will stretch and the tracheotomy could be removed in another year or so.

In the meantime, the Kneppers carry around a portable machine they use several times a day to suck mucus out of Lacey's throat and prevent her from choking.

"It's hard for people to not be afraid of her," Dennis said. "The trach looks like an ugly thing. People don't realize what it involves."

"Right now it's so hard because there's no way for her to communicate," her father said. "She's frustrated. She knows she should be able to talk and she can't. She puts her hands on my mouth and when I make a word, she mimics me. She tries to make a sound like 'dada, bottle.'"

"Most children watch their parents and see them chew. With Lacey, we have to take her hands and have her feel our jaws move up and down. She's started eating more and more."

It is easier now to reflect back and remember the learning processes with Lacey. "Her first birthday was a milestone but she wasn't doing much," her mother said. "Most one-year-olds can walk and say a few words. It was pretty discouraging."

As her parents tried to teach her different things, Lacey's frustration swelled and her temper exploded. She would thrust herself backward and ignore them.

Since beginning classes in May, Lacey has made progress, saying "eat," "more," and "drink" in sign language. She pats someone's leg to be picked up and she has learned to keep her hands out so she will feel a wall before bumping into it.

"She learned to walk in February," her mother said. "No one expected her to." She crawled one week before that. Now she walks around the house and she rarely bumps into anything, even with toys all over the floor from the other kids."

AND NOW . . .

Dear Mary Lou,

My name is Dennis Knepper and the wife and I just joined NAPVI. I wanted to share the story of my daughter with the rest of the members and others that might be interested, to let people know that they aren't alone. I know a lot of other parents who have the same problems we have, and I want to let them know they are not alone.

The articles I am sending you are about 1½-years-old but I feel they are informative. It shows that if the child has the will and courage to survive all odds and strive to do all that is set before them, then we should also strive to help the child anyway we possibly can. Since these articles were written we have

(Continued on Page 8)

"WHO DO WE BLAME? WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO?"

by Barry Haddle

(Ed. Note: Mr. Haddle is principal of the Ferndale Elementary School in Johnstown, PA, and is in charge of special education for the Ferndale area. "Who Do We Blame? What Good Does It Do?" is reprinted by permission from THE EXCEPTIONAL PARENT MAGAZINE (see Shopping Bag). It appeared in the December 1982 issue.

It seems to be an ingrained part of human nature to look for someone to blame whenever anything goes wrong. This is especially true whenever something goes wrong with a child. Parents blame teachers, teachers blame parents, and they both blame administrators. Even if it were possible to establish blame, what good would it do the child?

The people who suffer most from this blame seeking are the parents of children with emotional and behavior disorders.

Whenever a child has an obvious physical handicap, very few people are insensitive enough to suggest that the parents are at fault. No one says to the parents of a blind child, "If you had raised him properly, he would not be blind." Most people would have more respect for the feelings of the parents of a severely retarded child than to blame the parents for their child's affliction.

We have compassion for these parents and their children. We try to help if we can. The parents of children with mental and emotional handicaps, however, are fair game for all. They must listen to remarks such as: "If he were my child, I'd make him listen!" "What kind of parents would raise a kid like that?" and so on. I'm certain that many more examples could be given by parents who have been victims of such cutting remarks.

Consider the plight of these parents. They often blame themselves. Consumed with guilt, they ask themselves, "What have I done wrong?" In desperation, they seek help from "professionals." They go from agency to agency, all professing to help troubled children. They read book after book written by "experts." They receive counseling and attend seminars. Many spend their savings in a fruitless effort to "find a cure." A few lucky ones do get help, but the success rate is dismally low. For the unlucky majority, the feeling of hopelessness increases as they see little improvement despite all their efforts. Many see a future full of heartache and little hope.

These parents do not need the additional punishment brought on by callous remarks made by others.

The blame-seekers never explain how parents of troubled children can also have "good" children in the same family, nor how some lazy, lawless and otherwise unfit parents can have "good" children. If the parents were always to blame, this would never happen.

Rather than looking for someone to blame, we should all work together to see that the necessary resources are allocated to conduct research and find solutions to these problems. I do not mean that we need more people to invent half-baked theories so that they can write books and conduct lectures. These do nothing more than enrich authors by preying on the desperation of parents willing to try anything.

We need legitimate research by scientists. We need answers about how the mind really works and how it is influenced by body chemistry. Such research, of course,

is being done, but not on a scale that bears any relationship to the magnitude of the problem. We need a research program to improve the quality of human life that has the scope of the Manhattan Project.

The whole country would benefit and many presently unhappy parents and children would be eternally grateful.

(An additional resource for those interested in this subject is a new paperbound book by Pacer Center, Inc., 4826 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55417 entitled A GUIDEBOOK FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL DISORDERS. Cost of the book is \$6.)

COOKING: FUN WHILE LEARNING



Summer fun can mean cooking. Here's an easy no-cook recipe for fudge. Try it!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup corn syrup
- 1¼ cup dry milk
- 1¼ cup powdered sugar, sifted
- ¼ cup cocoa
- Nuts (optional)

Blend peanut butter and corn syrup in large mixing bowl; add dry milk and one cup sifted powdered sugar (the additional ¼ cup will be used later). Add cocoa. Mix with wooden spoon, then knead ingredients on pastry board lightly covered with ¼ cup sifted powdered sugar until smooth. Top with nuts if desired. (Hint: if making with a small child, you can roll it out and shape into an "F" for fudge on a cookie sheet.)

Why bother to cook with your child? Cooking provides a meaningful situation to learn the names of equipment and ingredients, purpose for measuring, association of smells with ingredients, and the sequencing of activities to "making" something.

This recipe comes from *ACB Cookery*, "A Way to Your Child's Mind Through His Stomach," by Sunny Stephens.

Kids! Share your recipes with other kids. Send them to *AWARENESS* and let us publish your recipe. (*AWARENESS*, 500 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, Arkansas 72335).

LIVING SKILLS HINT

A shorty but a goody! Use pipe cleaners or shoe laces to shape into numbers, letters or shapes, glued onto cardboard. A good and inexpensive tactual aid for parents to use!

Do you have a hint you would like to share with our readers? If so, write it down (need not be typed, but should be signed) and send to: Gale Hedgecock, Hints Editor, 1776B Frick Avenue, Charleston, SC 29404.

The following friends of NAPVI are 1985 contributors as of newsletter deadline time. We are most grateful to them and invite any who are not listed to send in their contribution so that we can truly say that our membership stands behind NAPVI 100 percent.

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SEEING LIFE IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT

By Janine Jensen, John Brown University

(Many NAPVI members will soon have children going off to school. Mary Jean Moscorro of Pontiac, Michigan, shared this college newspaper story of her daughter with us.—ed.)

Time to do laundry again? That means that you have to separate the colors, whites, brights, and darks.

A professor scribbles something on the board, and mumbles, "Adjust your seat so that you can see."

"This new menu has so many items I can't decide what to get. Everything looks so good."

Simple things that we take for granted can be frustrating to someone who is visually impaired. What to wear to class the next day is more than just a question of looking good. Adjusting your seat so you can see the board better would be a long-awaited miracle for someone like Shannon Moscorro, a freshman business and accounting major who is blind. (She can vaguely see light and dark shapes but no details.)

People are eager to hold doors for the handicapped or visually impaired. But a lot of times that is the extent of their help. It takes more than someone opening doors or jumping out of the way, it takes courage on both ends of the stick.

It required from Shannon a lot of courage to leave a comfortable home setting at 17 and travel 18 hours away to a typical college, one that is not specially designed for the visually impaired. Shannon knew no one upon arrival. Her mom did not stay with her as a nurse. She was dropped off like most college freshmen are. Courage, a noble yet painful word, is Shannon's best asset. That and a great sense of humor.

She wanted the best education that she could get, not just from books. She is living in a seeing world. Why be trained in a non-seeing one?

Many students have fallen in love with Shannon, basically because she is a lovable, hysterical person. She jams to music just like any other college freshman and can be found loitering in Phillips on late-night weekend binges. She is probably more normal than the rest of us.

She has mastered the musical world. She plays drums, piano, guitar, trumpet and keyboards. She surprises many with her dexterity and outrageous math skills. She loves math and has decided to minor in it. Shannon, as you can see, is multi-faceted and eager to develop many more new skills.

Some people with handicaps or visual impairments are pitiful. They can't do a thing for themselves and refuse to even try. Pity is the farthest thing from Shannon's mind. On the other hand, she does want friends and has plenty of them. Rarely is she alone or quiet. I know, I live next door! Sometimes she needs help with laundry or homework. It takes some time and patience, but maybe you have the gifts she needs. You can lend her a helping "eyeball."

Part-time roommate Jan Siemens states, "She hides gifts in my drawers and bed — perfume, candy, tapes. I never know what will pop up next. She's always talking about seeing, "See you later" or "You look nice today." It shows that she is easygoing about her impairment and helps others to relax around her."

One thing that frustrates the handicapped is people staring and not talking. Shannon loves to answer ques-



tions. (She loves to talk!) That is the bystander's time to have courage and bridge the gap by talking. Being blind is not fun, but it seems like Shannon is having a blast. That is her choice. Get to know her. Answer her questions. Believe me, you will never be the same.

THOUGHT PROVOKERS

(We prefer to publish signed letters, but have included this anyway because we felt many of our readers could identify with the "reaction" of a relative.—ed.)

Dear Sirs:

My cousin has a 10-year-old multihandicapped child. For 10 years now, I have been unable to talk to her. Maybe I was afraid I'd say the wrong thing or maybe I'd seen her bitterness and sarcasm in the past. I felt I couldn't talk to her about my children and did not know whether she wanted to talk about her son.

It was just recently that I did speak with her at a shower. Only this time, the bitterness and sarcasm weren't there, but rather the love and tenderness she felt for her son—the same love and tenderness I felt for mine. We spoke about our children!

Sincerely,

Anonymous

Are you comfortable when you're around a handicapped person other than blindness? Do you know what to say or do? If your answer is even a qualified "no," perhaps it's easier to understand other folks and their reactions to our kids. Send us your comments!

AND NOW . . . (Continued from Page 5)

Lacey entered a new school. She wasn't eligible for preschool until she was 3 years old. Since her third birthday she has been attending Jefferson School in Redondo Beach, CA. She has been progressing very well.

Lacey still has her trach but we've been told it may come out sometime this year. When it comes out it will be a big step in our lives. We can hardly wait for the day when she is able to communicate with us. The teachers at the school are very impressed with Lacey's progress. They said the first day she was bumping into everything. By the end of the day she had mastered all of the furniture and tables in the room. After the second day, she knew where all the shelves and all the toys were located. There isn't anything she doesn't know about the school now. She loves the outdoors and tries to get out as much as she can.

It goes to show you that a lot of love and understanding can accomplish almost any feat put before us. I guess I could go on for days talking about my Lacey, whom we love so very much but I'll sign off for now. Thank you,

Dennis C. Knepper

P.S. I'm also sending a poem from a former parent of a Blind Children's Center student. It reminded me of Lacey, and it brought a big lump to my throat. (See "And A Child," page 4.)

(Ed. Note: It reminds me of my David and it brings a big lump to my throat. Does it remind you of...?)

MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI

NAPVI provides its members with support, program information and assistance in improving services, and organizing parent groups. The different categories of membership are:

PARENTS AND FAMILIES (voting members, one vote per membership).

With this membership you receive our quarterly newsletter, legislative alerts, information sharing opportunities, referral to needed services, reduced publication rates, contact with other parents and families and a collective voice. DUES:\$5.00/year

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND AGENCIES. Federal, State and Local (non-voting membership).

This membership will receive our quarterly newsletter and related information. DUES: \$15.00/year

ASSOCIATE (non-voting member)

This membership category is for individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI. DUES: \$3.00/year

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to regular memberships there are contributing memberships available. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service information and assistance to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

- SUPPORTING.....\$50-200
- SPONSORING.....\$200-1,000
- PATRON.....over \$1,000

Contributing members will receive recognition for their tax deductible donation to NAPVI.

You can also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents by spreading word of its existence to people who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments, and by letting us know what your needs are.

To join NAPVI or renew your membership for 1985, complete the following application, cut on the dotted line and return with your check to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

The type of membership I am applying for is: _____

_____ Parents and Families (\$5.00/year)

_____ Parent groups, community groups or agencies (\$15.00/year)

_____ Associate (non-voting; \$3.00/year)

This is a renewal (check one): ☐ Yes ☐ No

SPRING 1985

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. () _____

_____ Signature

To order the following publications, complete the following order form, cut on the dotted line and return, with your check to:

NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

_____ TAKE CHARGE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$5.50)

_____ HOW TO PACK 'EM IN: A GUIDE FOR PARENT WORKSHOPS (\$3.00)

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_____ PARENTS TO THE RESCUE (\$2.00)

_____ YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL (\$5.00)

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order for _____

Name and mailing address: _____

_____ Signature

PUBLICATIONS FROM NAPVI, INC.

NAPVI PROUDLY INTRODUCES —
YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL

As parents of a visually impaired child, you have the responsibility of monitoring development and care of your child. You should be aware of your child's needs so that you can be sure they are being properly met. Your child cannot determine whether he is getting appropriate treatment from the teachers and therapists he sees, so it's up to you, his parent(s), to take charge.

YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL is designed to help you do this effectively by providing forms enabling you to keep careful records of your child's development and treatment. As you contact various professionals over a period of time, you will need to provide them with information about your child's developmental history, so they can do their best to help him/her. By keeping the JOURNAL, you will have accurate information at your fingertips and not have to depend on memory or to start calling offices.

This workbook contains various sections; some of the information is personal, for your eyes only. The JOURNAL is for your benefit; it's your decision as to when it is appropriate to share this information with professionals.

The first six sections are for keeping track of background information to be filled out before you seek professional help; the next two sections, ("Education Evaluation Summary" and "Special Services Information") are for you to use after a visit with a professional who is testing or treating your child.

This one publication may become the most useful one you have ever kept — and the most important.

YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL may be obtained from the NAPVI/National Office at P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. Cost is \$5.



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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label now gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after November 1, 1984 becoming 1985 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming — check the bottom line!

LEO CLUBS HELP TEENS LEARN

(Bryan Hudson, son of NAPVI Vice President Eileen Hudson, is president of a Leo Club. Eileen wanted to share with you what Leo Clubs are all about. ed.)

Several thousand Leo Clubs are organized worldwide and operate under the sponsorship of Lions Clubs.

The first Leo Club was established in Pennsylvania in 1957 as an activity of the Glenside Lions Club. Leo Clubs began to spring up throughout Pennsylvania and New York soon after, and in 1968, the International Association of Lions Clubs' Board of Directors voted to approve the sponsoring of Leo Clubs internationally. Today there are several thousand Leo Clubs organized worldwide and new clubs are being accepted at the rate of 40 per month.

Leo Clubs are sponsored by Lions Clubs to promote service activities among the youth of the community which will develop the individual qualities of leadership, experience and opportunity. Each Leo Club has as its object to provide the youth of the world an opportunity for development and contribution, individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local, national and international community.

Each club has an advisor who is a member of the sponsoring Lions Club. The advisor encourages, guides and aids the Leos in every way possible. He also acts as the liaison between Leo Club members and the sponsoring Lions Club.

For more information about starting a Leo Club in your area, consult your local Lions Club.

YOUR CHILD'S
IN **FORMATION**
JOURNAL



NEW PUBLICATION

A new publication from NAPVI simplifies your job as a parent to keep track of the particulars of your child's development. Not only a handy journal, but possibly the most important one you've ever kept! Copies are now available from the National office. See the membership and publications page for more information.



AWARENESS

SUMMER 1985

P.O. Box 180806

Austin, Texas 78718

Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor of Newsletter

ELECTION SLATED

During September NAPVI parent/family members from two regions will be participating in a by-mail election to fill two spots on the Board of Directors. Those states include Region II's Pennsylvania, Ohio, Delaware, Virginia, Kentucky, West Virginia, Washington, D.C. and Maryland and Region IV's North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama.

Norma Lucas, 832 Shannon Road, Gerard, OH 44420, has been nominated for the Region II seat currently held by Fay Corey of Pittsburgh and Tom Auletta of Rt. 1, Box 274, Deer Springs Road, Keystone Heights, FL 32656, is running for the board position currently held by Mary Lou Wilkinson of Forrest City, AR.

Mrs. Lucas and her husband, Bill, are the parents of 18-year-old Gary, who is legally blind as the result of cataracts and corneal scarring which developed into amblyopia. Norma has been involved in Gary's education from the early preschool days, later serving on a committee of parents of children with all disabilities who assisted in helping professionals learn about the educational needs of the children. So good was the reporting that the group was asked to disband because so many needs were uncovered. She also served as treasurer of the Parent Teacher Organization.

For the past month, the Lucas family has toured seven European countries with Gary, who has been a member of the Warren Junior Military Band, a tri-county band selected from 22 area schools. Gary is also on a Beeper Ball Team. Norma sees her role on the NAPVI Board as being particularly concerned with the transition years, as their family helps Gary move from children's to adult services — and is exploring with Gary the resources he'll need to guarantee a successful college career.

Tom Auletta and his wife, Barbara, are the parents of four-year-old Mathew, who weighed 1 lb. 6 oz. at birth and has retinopathy of prematurity. In addition to his vision problems, he hears only muffled sounds. Mathew spent five and a half months in ICU before he was stable enough to go home and then he had to be monitored for cardiac functioning. Now he is beginning to learn finger spelling, self-help skills like feeding and his parents are spending lots of time encouraging him to reach out and explore his environment.

Tom is an aircraft mechanic with the Navy, working on the Aviation Metalsmith Egress Team. He serves on the American Foundation for the Blind's Transition Team for Florida and is a member of the North Florida

(Continued on Page 3)

enVISION yourself in Dallas...

NAPVI'S NATIONAL PARENT CONFERENCE

"We, the parents of visually impaired children... ourselves . . . our children . . . our friends"

NOVEMBER 5-8, 1986

DALLAS, TEXAS

NORTH PARK INN AND CONVENTION CENTER

MEET TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Two new appointees to the NAPVI Board of Directors are Joan Johnson of Springfield, MO, and Kate Aldrich of Santa Ana, CA. Mrs. Johnson is filling the unexpired term of NAPVI Vice President Eileen Hudson of Beloit, WI, and Kate Aldrich is assuming the Region IV board member duties of NAPVI Secretary Judith Stotland.

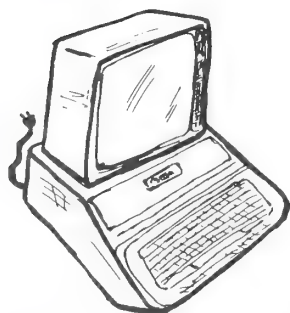
Joan and her husband, Bill, are the parents of seven-year-old Jeff, who has RLF and is also language delayed. The Johnsons were instrumental in founding the Visually Impaired Preschool of Southwest Missouri four years ago. The school has been certified now for two years. Joan is an English teacher turned librarian and is excited about serving on the NAPVI Board.

"I hope to gain some experiences and knowledge that will help us and our son. We also hope to be able to contribute something."

Kate Aldrich and her husband, Rich Lind, are the parents of Ben, age 3, who is totally blind and developmentally delayed as a result of extreme prematurity. Ben has attended the Blind Children's Learning Center of Orange County since the age of four months. Kate and Rich have been very active members of the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, a NAPVI affiliate and Kate presently serves as editor of their newsletter. She is working on her master's degree in nursing.

She writes, "Rich and I feel that our membership in CAPVI AND NAPVI has helped us to deal with parenting a handicapped child more effectively; it helps just knowing there are others facing and overcoming the same problems."

HIGH TECH TALK



your child's experiences with any particular equipment, we will pass it on to our readers.

NAPVI is aware that more and more technical developments are opening up markets of equipment that may prove useful to our blind and visually impaired youth. HI-TECH is a new column added to AWARENESS with this in mind. We'll keep information general in line with our policy of not recommending any particular system or brand. If you, as parents, wish to share information pertaining to

RESOURCE LISTS—Sherry Lowry, a parent of a blind teenager, has developed extensive resource lists of people, hardware and software that are making computers accessible for blind students and adults. She often knows about a program, person or piece of equipment before anyone else does! Contact her at 10622 Fairlane Drive, Houston, TX 77024.

RESOURCES FOR ACCESS TO MICROCOMPUTERS FOR VI STUDENTS has been compiled by Cathy Mack, a doctoral student at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. To obtain a copy of her resource list, contact the West Virginia Instructional Resource Center, WV School for the Deaf and Blind, Romney, WV 26757.

A COMPUTER FAMILIARITY KIT is now being developed. It will be a collection of touchable tubes, transistors, disks, etc., as well as some introductory computer programs for the APPLE II computer. Bob Glass at the American Printing House is currently putting this kit together—more information when we receive it.

MICROCOMPUTER NEWS FOR TEACHERS OF BLIND STUDENTS lists current information about microcomputer accessibility for blind and low vision students—software, equipment and resources. To receive the next edition, send your name, title, address and \$1 to Cathy Mack, Box 328, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37203.

GAMES WORKING WITH ECHO—One that follows the format of "Wheel of Fortune" has been developed by Keith Creasy, 1956 Mellwood Ave., Louisville, KY 40206. It includes about 300 puzzles and teachers have the option of adding their own. A Math Decathlon game is also available from David Hauck, ISVI, 658 East State Street, Jacksonville, IL 60093, (217) 245-4101, Ext. 235. It works with the Echo voice synthesizer on an APPLE IIE and is set up like the Olympics for one to four players with eight events and national events.

USER FRIENDLY—Many professionals around the country have developed a great deal of expertise in the use of computers that they are more than willing to share with parents. One such is Jan Lynch, who teaches computers at the Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind. Write to her at P.O. Box 4055, Little Rock, AR 72203 or at her home, 3016 Alameda, Little Rock, Telephone (501) 562-7168.

If you'd like to be a resource listed in HI-TECH, let AWARENESS know!

SHOPPING BAG

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about their item with the NAPVI membership. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion.

SEEDLINGS, Braille Books for Children—This new nonprofit organization is dedicated to producing affordable high quality braille books for children. Each book is printed on heavy braille paper (no thermoform) and is spiral-bound. Books are available for various age groups. For further information related to books available, pricing and ordering, contact Seedlings, Braille Books for Children, 8447 Marygrove Drive, Detroit, MI 48228 (313/862-7828).

TALK TO ME II: COMMON CONCERNS, a follow-up booklet to "Talk To Me: A Language Guide for Parents of Blind Children," is a result of feedback from the earlier publication. Material was determined by comments and questions raised by parents and professionals regarding the language development of young blind children. It is free of charge and available in English and Spanish. Write to Blind Children's Center, 4120 Marathon Street, P.O. Box 29159, Los Angeles, CA 90029.

FREE BIBLE CASSETTES FOR THE BLIND—Bible Alliance, Inc., P.O. Box 1549, Bradenton, FL 33506 (Phone 813/748-3031), is offering free Bible cassette tapes of the New and Old Testaments, plus Bible messages to all who are legally blind and those permanently disabled to such extent as to affect their reading ability. Orders from individuals directed to Bible Alliance should include written certification of blindness or reading handicap from an organization for the blind or from a physician, if possible. Certification is not necessary if an organization for the blind orders for an individual. Further details available upon request, directed to the attention of Lee H. Hilliard.

THE CONCISE COLUMBIA ENCYCLOPEDIA IN LARGE PRINT—The only current encyclopedia in large print that includes every entry contained in the original edition, was recently published by Columbia University Press. Contains more than 15,000 entries, including 5,000 biographies, more than 3,000 up-to-date articles on scientific and technical subjects and over 50,000 cross references. For more information about the eight volume set (Cost: \$275), write to Columbia University Press, 136 South Broadway, Irvington, NY 10633.

TACTILE ART PRODUCTS, "Art is for Everyone!" and their theme, offers a variety of art products for the visually impaired/blind person. Their ART Box with its specially designed drawing pad provides a method for blind and visually impaired people to create colored drawings and sketches. Drawing pad features facilitated raised line drawing and a hinged template serves as a tactual margin. Other items available include an im- printing tool, brailled colored pencils, colored markers, temperas, etc. Write to Tactile Art Products for information related to catalogs, pricing and ordering at 408 Oak Tree Drive, St. Louis, MO 63119.

THE TEACHER MAKES THE SYSTEM

NAPVI member Sharon Gilbert was invited to be a presenter on a panel presentation for the Council on Exceptional Children at their national convention in Anaheim, CA, in April.

Hello, I am Jeff Gilbert's mother.

When Jeff was born, his face and skull were covered with a large birthmark that indicated a syndrome which includes congenital glaucoma with probable blindness and also the possibility of epilepsy, retardation and early death. At 18 months, Jeff started to have seizures. When he was two and a half, we were told his IQ was 50. By five, he had been hospitalized 39 times for various procedures and surgeries. A neurologist confirmed the presence of small strokes by the age of 14. Today Jeff is 19, a junior in high school, and has successfully passed his district competency exams for graduation. He is a braille student who relies heavily on audio-oral learning and more recently uses a computer as an educational tool.

As Jeff's mother I have felt the frustration of social stigma, increased physical and emotional demands and the lack of training for my "job specs." As a family we have experienced financial strain, feelings of inadequacy, at times a sense of isolation. We have experienced the restructuring of our family life and face a more constant threat of surgery and death. I share this with you so that you can understand some of the demands that come with parenting a disabled child.

As parents, we meet these demands with different skills and different levels of competency. I'm fortunate. I am well-educated and familiar with educational institutions. We are in the middle income bracket (my husband teaches) so I have not needed to work. This has given me more time to deal with the role of parenting and meet the challenges of educating my child.

To meet these challenges I have educated myself, served on the advisory council to our local SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area) and have volunteered with other organizations serving the handicapped. But MOSTLY, to meet the challenge of educating my child, I have tried to achieve a partnership with the educational system.

When PL 94-142 became effective Jeff was 12 and already well entrenched in the educational system. We live in Fullerton where the V.H. students are contracted out to the Anaheim School District. However, in the early 70s, Anaheim did not accept V.H. children until the age of six. So Jeff's educational history reads like this:

- From 1½ to 6 years Jeff was enrolled in a variety of private programs. I drove as far as 65 miles a day for him to attend nursery school.
- For a short time he attended regular kindergarten in Fullerton where I volunteered daily as an aide, to free the paid aide so she could assist Jeff's teacher.
- At 6 he was enrolled in Anaheim's V.H. program. At 9 he transferred into the Garden Grove V.H. pro-

gram and then returned to Anaheim for his high school education.

- Jeff has always been in a V.H. resource room at least one period a day.

You see the variety in the educational system I've tried to be partners with. Sometimes I've felt like administrator, coordinator, bus driver, in fact, a complete designated services department! HOWEVER, I have always had a partner in meeting these demands. I know PL 94-142, state law, district administration, the principal, regular classroom teachers and numerous other factors make up a special ed program. But, from a parent's perception, the teacher is the embodiment of the entire system. To be partners with the system means working with the teacher. Teachers are people. Parents are people. They both come in a wide variety of competencies and personalities. Rapport between any given parent-teacher team is sometimes instant, other times it's difficult to achieve. Good communication skills are important to all team members!

Consider that most handicapped kids have the same teacher for more than one year and the special ed teacher has the same kids often for several years. Parents aren't able to tell Johnny to "hang in there — next year you'll have a new teacher" and the teacher can't tell Johnny to "shape up or ship out."

Teachers and parents of the disabled are under unusual stresses, dealing with unique problems that place real burdens on them. The parent-teacher partnership can be difficult; difficult for teachers, difficult for parents who are already overwhelmed, frustrated and feeling intimidated by the unknown. I think parents and teachers need help with their partnership. PL 94-142 authorizes parent counseling and training—the kind of help we need—BUT WHO PROVIDES IT?

I would like to see early intervention by personnel trained to counsel, educate, intervene and be a liaison between parents and the educational system. I believe if parents had their own caseworker/counselor who would personally supervise them and their child's education, there would be better communication between the educational system and parents, less burden on teachers and parents, and a better partnership for the education of our children.

ELECTION SLATED (Continued from Page 1)

Parent Association for the Visually Impaired, serving on its social committee. His current hobby is designing and building special equipment for children with disabilities, including prone standers and modified strollers. He says this combines his work skills with the innovations his son needs to learn about his world.

Parents in Region II and Region IV are asked to return the ballot in the SASE provided to the NAPVI office by return mail, according to Election's Chairman Diana Cuthbertson of Boston, MA.

There will be room on the ballot for a write-in selection.

Those elected must be a parent of a visually impaired child, have been a member of NAPVI/National at least one year, actively involved in areas associated with the visually impaired, have three letters of reference, submit a letter of intent to serve and be able to attend all board meetings.

Back to school: Parent Perspectives

SCHOOL...AND HOW TO COPE

(The following article comes from the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, Washington, D.C. (especially Beverly Caldwell and Irma Gaither). With "school just around the corner," there are some suggestions that might be helpful to the "old hands" as well as the parents facing a first experience.)

During a recent Family Workshop, parents and staff discussed the issue of "separation." It became apparent that there are no hard and fast rules regarding parents separating from their children as they go to school. As we all listened we realized parents who have made that so necessary bond with their child have the usual reluctance of sending their child away, even two hours, while at the same time, wanting to do the optimum for the special child.

This separation is significant for both the parent and the child in finding the next level of identity and security. But how do we cope with this? Hopefully, ideas which have worked for some may trigger ideas for others.

1. Meet the teachers and become comfortable with them.
2. Look for the teacher's personality, professionalism and willingness "to work with you."
3. Realize the school will meet the child's physical and educational needs and verify, through building relationships with teachers, that the staff will provide emotional needs of the child for the hours at school.
4. Treat siblings equally during this time; however, be sensitive to additional needs.
5. Try to be consistent once a pattern is set.
6. Be involved with the school.
7. Make time for yourself. Plan this time. "What will I be doing tomorrow while John's at school?"
8. Brainstorm with some friends and relatives for long-range plans.
9. Realize any new schedule will be strange at first, yours as well as the child's.
10. A good time to balance needs of the family members is now, i.e., college education of spouse, brother's sports, etc.
11. A good time to be you! And be refreshed when your child comes home.
12. Exchange information with the school via a notebook.

What are your ideas on separating? This reminds us that recently NAPVI Region II Board Member Fay Corey found herself in a similar situation when 11-year-old Joshua began a new program. Not wanting to sit home and mope, Faye found an hour-long job in a foot hospital four days a week, as the "TV Lady" who goes into each patient's room daily to ask if they wish to have TV service that day. "It's marvelous therapy," Fay claims and, being Fay, she's formed some marvelous new friendships along with it! If you have a similar story, let us know: 500 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, AR 72335.

THE ULTIMATE RISK

By Fay Corey

*We take many risks along life's way
Some come with youth, some with play,
As we grow older, we often say,
Of freeing our bodies from tobacco,
Food and such — "someday!"*

*But, as a mother of a "total needs" son
The ultimate risk — the pain and the joy
Of this little one
Is loving with open arms and
Allowing him to grow — to be*

- *To ride in a van alone,
To travel over ice and snow*
- *To take a chance with little ills*
- *To face some very real fears,
And worry and pray*

*And be grateful for another
Safe and happy day — for the
Ultimate risk for any mother to say,
"You must be on your growing way."*

KEEPING TRACK: THE KEY TO EFFECTIVENESS

(Although this was written in 1978 and distributed by the National Easter Seal Society, some things don't change).

Parents have fought for and won the opportunity to play a critical role in planning their child's educational program. It has been suggested that this role is enhanced when parents:

1. Are confident about their own abilities. They know their child better than anyone else.
2. Keep detailed records. Accurate recording of all important communications and events and safekeeping of the records are paramount.
3. Join a parent group. By talking with people who "have been through it already," parents can gain a perspective on their problems, find moral support, and keep themselves informed.
4. Stay in close touch with the child's teacher. Knowing what is being done in the classroom can facilitate follow-through at home.
5. Listen to the child. Only he or she can give the personal point of view. Problems can be solved when people work them through together.

LOOKING GOOD

Writing in the Spring, 1982 AWARENESS, NAPVI Board Member Jeanie Flack, Billings, MT, said: "I've noticed that sometimes parents think that, because the blind child can't see, it really doesn't matter how he looks. We all know that being blind increases the stares our children get. But if they're clean and neat, with a nice tan and brown plaid shirt on top of dark brown corduroy pants, instead of mismatched shirt and pants, they will receive much less negative feedback.

Learning about dressing and grooming does not come naturally to any child; it has to be taught. The blind child should be taught how important it is to wear coordinated clothes and socks; to be sure he or she is neat and clean. Just because he can't see himself doesn't mean others won't. After all, when we dress up it generally isn't to see ourselves; it's so others will see how nice we look. Vain maybe, but true.

Positive input, such as "You sure look great today, Tommy; I like your nice blue shirt!" really helps to keep a child interested in his appearance. And always talk about colors—because his world is full of color even though he can't see them. In his sighted world he will have to know all about color!"

Recipes

No Back-To-School edition would be complete without some recipes for having fun on those long between summer and fall days before serious school work begins in earnest. Enjoy!

Finger Paint

Ingredients:

1½ cups laundry starch powder

1½ cups soap flakes

½ tbsp. poster paint of each color desired

1 quart boiling water

½ cup talc (optional)

Mix starch with enough cold water to form a creamy paste. Add boiling water and simmer until mixture becomes transparent or glassy looking. Stir constantly. Add talc, if desired, to make a smoother paint. Allow mixture to cool slightly, then add soap flakes. Stir until evenly distributed. Allow the mixture to cool completely and then pour into a jar or container. Stir poster paint (liquid or powder) into each jar.

Play Dough

Ingredients:

1 cup flour

1 cup salt

1 tbsp. alum (optional)

1 cup water

Combine the first three ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Add most of the water and mix well. If the dough is too stiff to work easily with your hands, add a little more water. Then mix in the desired shade of food coloring. (We never bothered with color and the kids enjoyed it anyway). Keep in an air tight container so it won't dry out when not in use.

Blind and VI children can be creative, too! So have fun.

LET'S TALK ABOUT LEARNING DISABILITIES

(Editor's Note: If your blind/visually impaired child is having difficulty in school, there is always a possibility of a learning disability. The following article contains excerpts from "How Do I Know If My Child Has A Learning Disability?" printed in the News Digest, a newsletter published by the National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth.)

Various definitions have been given for the term "learning disability." One of the most recent was adopted in 1984 by the Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities, stressing the potential of learning disabilities for affecting people throughout their lives.

"Specific Learning Disabilities is a chronic condition of presumed neurological origin which selectively interferes with the development, integration, and/or demonstration of verbal and/or non-verbal activities.

Specific Learning Disabilities exists as a distinct handicapping condition in the presence of average to superior intelligence, adequate sensory and motor systems, and adequate learning opportunities. The condition varies in its manifestation and in degree of severity.

Throughout life the condition can affect self-esteem, education, vocation, socialization, and/or family living activities."

Federal regulations provide the following criteria for determining whether a child has a learning disability:

a) The child does not achieve commensurate with his or her age and ability level in one or more of the following areas when provided with learning experiences appropriate for the child's age and ability level: oral expression, listening comprehension, written expression, basic reading skills, reading comprehension, mathematics calculation or mathematics reasoning.

b) The child has a severe discrepancy between achievement and intellectual ability in one or more of the areas listed in the preceding statement.

Even though problems may exist there are guidelines which must be followed to determine if the child is truly "learning disabled." The June edition of the *News Digest* is devoted entirely to articles on learning disabilities and bibliography. Contact Toni Haas, director, The National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth, 1555 N. Wilson Blvd., Suite 508, Rosslyn, VA 22209 to request a copy.

DISABLED TEENS SOUGHT

International Christian Youth Exchange is working together with Mobility International USA to encourage more disabled people to participate in international youth exchange, both going abroad and coming to the U.S.

ICYE offers a year-long learning experience for youths aged 16 through 24 years old. They are looking for individuals who are committed to their goals of breaking through barriers between cultures and peoples; and justice for all persons who suffer under social, political, economic and personal injustice.

Participants are expected to respect the beliefs of other peoples.

If you are interested in hosting a disabled student or having your son/daughter become an exchangee, contact the national office at 134 West 26th Street, New York, NY 10011, (212/206-7307).

SPECIAL THANKS TO PROFESSIONALS

A big special thanks to our associate members because parents, of all people, know how valuable our professionals are to us and especially to our children. While we pride ourselves on feeling that nobody knows our child as well as we do, we also realistically recognize that just "knowing" and "loving" and "understanding" our child isn't enough to get him/her over the additional humps it takes a handicapped child to get "grown." We count on your expertise in working with our child and

in guiding us in the right direction. We appreciate you and we hope you, as professionals, will continue to support NAPVI with your membership. Are you on the roster below? If so, thanks again. If not, take time to join with us today! (This list may not include some professionals with visually impaired children of their own, who are parent/family members or those who represent agencies.)

Karen S. Ross, MA
Julie Urban, MA
Jean Mellen, MA
Karyn Stranberg, MA
Paula Puzinas, MA
Myra T. Schrode, MA
Judith T. Smith, RI
Lynne Albright, NH
Roxanne Delfrari, NH
Richard G. Maher, NH
Dr. Robert E. Long, CT
Dr. Kay Ferrell, NJ
Dr. Susan Jay Spungin, NY
Dr. Kathleen M. Huebner, NY
William F. Gallagher, NY
Gerard Miller, NY
Jamie Casabianca, NY
Saul Freedman, NY
Frank Simpson, NY
Lynne Lutton, NY
Mary Ann Lang, NY
Josephine Blaine, NY
Barbara Millis, NY
Marcia T. Lynch, NY
Dr. Rona Shaw, NY
Celine Asch, NY
Joan B. Smith, NY
Edith Patt, NY
Irene Ludwig, NY
Elizabeth M. Mallett, NY
Grace Franze, NY
M. Veronica Gilligan, NY
Mary A. Wilson, NY
Eleanor Weyter, NY
Linda Slomovitz, NY
Janice L. Beutner, NY
Trudy Fike, NY
Mrs. Kent B. Akin, NY
Cheryl Richesin, CN
Kim LeBlanc Ventresco, NY
Ferne K. Roberts, NY
Terry Rafalowski, WA
Jean Mosenfelder, MI
Dr. Paul Freeman, PA
Joan Hyatt, PA
Joyce Teese, PA
Dr. Janet Simon, PA
Linda Schnaubelt, PA
Marlene Kumar Dean, PA
Mary Frances Clark Garrison, PA
Joyce H. Marr, PA
Dr. Ralph L. Peabody, PA
R. Joseph Reynolds, PA
Charles J. McErlain, PA
Judith A. Farrar, PA
Nancy L. Shaw, PA

Adrienne Koller, PA
Barbara Nollendorfs, PA
Mary J. Mostertz, PA
Dr. Mae Davidow, PA
Dr. S. M. Kershman, PA
Gerri Kometa, PA
Michelle D. Nelson, DC
Marian Bobo, DC
Patricia Anne Davis, PhD, MD
Christina Baugh, MD
Glenn & Joan Wilson, WV
Sharon Fridley, WV
Janet M. Dobson, KY
Jo Ann Witt, KY
Dr. Marjorie E. Ward, OH
Darlene Limmer, OH
Eleanor H. Hitchcock, OH
Annette C. Skellenger, OH
Bonnie Woolston, VA
Dr. Jane Erin, PA
Jeanne Leiper, PA
Catherine Hula, MD
Charles Bonar, WV
Dr. Verna Hart, PA
Beatrice Vuocolo, PA
Dr. Geraldine Scholl, MI
Barbara Lowenberg-Irlandy, ME
John F. Neely, MI
Donna Heiner, MI
Bonnie Butera, MI
George Ossentjuk, MI
Jo Ann Coin, MI
Mary Reicks, IA
Jill M. Roberts, IA
Rebecca Bartels-Weeden, WI
Ken Tapp, WI
Marie Knowlton, MN
Sarabeth Watson, MN
Annette Wilson, IL
Wendy Berman, IL
Dan McLinden, IL
Dr. Gaylen Kapperman, IL
Jodi Stricken, IL
Kathleen E. Miller, IL
Barbara Newman, IL
Shirley Dale, IL
Gregory P. Savel, MO
William S. Morris, MO
Jan Talbot, MN
Debra Frey, MN
Paul C. Reinert, IL
Kathy Hollis, IL
Lila Cabbil, MD
Jan Williams, NC
Mary C. Powers, SC
Barbara Mattson, SC

Dennis Thurman, SC
Dr. Clay W. Evatt Jr., SC
Annette Bruorton, SC
Richard L. King, SC
Amy Chrysler, SC
Susan B. Cuddeback, SC
Mary M. Allred, SC
Trina Britcher, SC
Jan Lichtenstein, SC
Debra Nelson, GA
Margot A. Palazesi, FL
Douglas G. Smith, FL
Diana Peeples, FL
Marcia Arthur, FL
Judy H. Lloyd, FL
Carol E. Weis, TN
Dr. Everett W. Hill, TN
Bonnie Dodson-Burk, TN
Martha Bagley, MS
Celeste Prejean, LA
Christine Karcher, LA
Dr. Janet Klineman, FL
Deborah Hattson, NC
Gerda Dymys, GA
Dr. J. M. Woolly, AR
Jerry Baker, MT
Janie Parr, KS
Angela Pratt, KS
Nancy Bailey, KS
Diana Styles, NE
Ruby Eschen, NE
Marilyn Sanders, OK
Donna L. Wong, OK
Carol Danielson, TX
Jana L. Almquist, TX
Emilie M. Kief, TX
Lois Fair, TX
Melanie White, TX
Sherry McGee, TX
Bouneva Mayo, TX
Norma A. Seiler, TX
Nona Matthews, TX
Kathleen E. Fraser, O.D., TX
Karen Rhodes, TX
Pamela C. Hackleman, TX
Bill Agnell, TX
Dr. Anne Corn, TX
Frances Laware, TX
Dr. Natalie C. Barraga, TX
Jim Allan, TX
Virginia Bishop, TX
Steven M. DeRosa, TX
Terri Johnson, TX
Janie Fox Jones, TX
Colleen Leonard, TX
J. R. Hurst, TX

Elaine Moses, TX
Dr. Lee W. Robinson, TX
Dr. Alan Abeson, TX
Dr. Grace D. Napier, CO
Judith Greeley, CO
C. Kent Jensen, WY
Ronald O. Warpness, NY
Joe and Betty Domingues, NM
Bill Davis, NM
W. Buck Schrotberger, CO
Rebah J. Hubbard, KS
Janis Holloman, OK
George Studencki, ID
Ron Darcy, ID
Pat Wilber, UT
Irene Topor, AZ
Michelle M. Taylor, NV
Libby Jones, NV
Ruth Rosner, CA
Drs. Hoeft and Snyder, CA
Kay Clarke, CA
Bruce and Rona Harrell, CA
Sylvia Halote, CA
Diane Moshenrose, CA
Elena Halpert, CA
Julie Johnson, CA
Evelyn Carr, CA
Bonnie L. Duncan, CA
Robert L. Gordon, O.D., CA
Dr. Alan Riezman, CA
Norma L. Schecter, CA
Pat Schultz, CA
Jackie Ackerman, CA
Maxine C. Driscoll, CA
Kate Sefton, CA
Lucille Whaley, CA
Rivka Greenberg, CA
Patricia P. Eagle, CA
Dr. Sally Mangold, CA
Clare Taylor Friedman, CA
Doris Strong, CA
Dr. Phil C. Hatlan, CA
Deborah Bremer, CA
Judith Lutenske, CA
Janice Polizzi, CA
R. K. Daum, CA
Fred Sinclair, CA
Susan T. Hokoma, HI
Patty Troisi, OR
Barbara Kaner, WA
Emogene B. Johnston, WA
Mary Fahrner, OR
Elaine Baldridge, AZ
Lynne Laney-Milo, CA
Pauline Lang, CA
Diane Nousanen, TX

SCHOOL AND SUCH

The Blind Children's Center has a correspondence course for parents of blind children ages birth to three which is available to parents all over the U.S. Consultants are available at the Center to answer a parent's telephone questions. For more information, contact Dori Hayashi, educational consultant, the Blind Children's Center, 4120 Marathon Street, Los Angeles, CA 90029-0159, telephone (213) 664-2153.

The Hadley School for the Blind also has a correspondence course for parents. The course utilizes Dr. Kay Ferrell's *Reach Out and Teach* materials. For more information, contact Sally Hering, The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm Street, Winnetka, IL 60093, (312) 446-8111 or call toll free 1-800-323-4238.

In either of these cases, parents may leave their name and phone number and someone will return the call, so the parent does not have to pay a large phone bill.

KID-TESTED RECIPES

APPLE GOODIE

Submitted by Matthew Levi Delaplane, 4, son of Mike and Julie Delaplane, Bloomington, Illinois.

Ingredients:

6 graham crackers

1 cup applesauce

Put graham crackers in a plastic baggie and seal with twist tie. Crush the cracker with your hands. Put a tablespoon of applesauce in a paper cup (one cup for each of your friends) and sprinkle with the graham cracker. Continue layering applesauce and crumbs until the cups are full.

Send your KID-TESTED RECIPE to AWARENESS Editor, 500 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, AR 72335.

PARENTS URGED TO ATTEND

In announcing NAPVI's first-ever National Parent Conference, President Elaine Moses urges agency officials and board chairmen in both the public and private sectors to "find ways and means within their budgets to earmark funds so that as many parents as possible from every state may attend."

"This historic convention is being geared toward the parents of visually impaired children, and will be a very positive way to bring them together in order to find support in one another. I hope that parents in rural as well as urban areas will be able to attend...but in most cases this won't be possible unless schools for the blind, local school district parent teacher organizations, Lions Clubs and private corporations rally to send a representative from their area to the Dallas convention," she said.

"We also hope as many professionals as possible, including teachers, related services personnel and representatives of the medical profession will attend," she said.

NAPVI will do all that it possibly can by publishing timely information about the conference. A descriptive brochure is being published now by the national office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718. The NAPVI office is located at 713 W. St. Johns, Austin, TX 78752.

RECEIVES ACB SCHOLARSHIP

By Keitha Robinson

An associate member of NAPVI recently stepped up to the podium at the annual convention of the American Council of the Blind to accept a \$2,500 scholarship—David Wilkinson, son of Henry and Mary Lou Wilkinson of Forrest City, AR, was one of 17 chosen for the awards.

David, who has light and dark perception and some object perception relative to light, color and size, is a braille student and uses a cane for mobility. He has optic nerve atrophy. He made the trip to Las Vegas alone, so changing planes, claiming luggage, hailing a limo and checking into a hotel without knowing anyone was a learning experience. His mother reports that he came back penniless and happy (isn't that what you're supposed to remember about "Vegas?").

David made the decision to join NAPVI several years ago on his own, feeling he had a vested interest in a parent support organization!

He attended the Arkansas School for the Blind from kindergarten until tenth grade, where he participated in choir, wrestling, school council and learned piano tuning (he's had his own business for several years now!). In the tenth grade, he took a French class at a high school in Little Rock. He has spent the past two years back home at Forrest City High School, where he belonged to Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, a math honors club, Future Business Leaders of America and choir. He was Student Council President his senior year.

This fall, David will enter Hendrix College in Conway, AR. He hopes to be a congressional page, a foreign exchange student and is leaning toward the humanities. This summer David, in addition to his piano tuning business, is employed in a summer youth program sponsored by the federal government, answering the switchboard and relaying messages at the county courthouse.

ACCREDITATION FOR 100th AGENCY

The National Accreditation Council granted first-time accreditation to three agencies for the blind and visually handicapped during its December meeting. This brings the total number of accredited organizations to an all-time high of 100. At the same meeting, the Commission for Accreditation extended the accreditation of two organizations, postponed a decision on one applicant for initial accreditation and placed three accredited organizations on warning.

NAPVI recognizes that "parents of visually impaired children have a right to expect that schools and agencies meet minimum standards in administration, programming, planning, and evaluation..." (NAPVI Resolution 82.3) and "supports procedures of accreditation involving a team of parents, consumers and professionals knowledgeable about the field of visual impairment and applying recognized standards, such as those adopted by NAC.

Are the agencies serving you and your blind child accredited?

"There is nothing that strikes fear into a parent's heart more than a roomful of kids who are suddenly quiet!"

800 NETWORK NOW ON LINE

Central to the National Committee for Citizens in Education's (NCCE) information system for parents and citizens is a toll-free 800 NETWORK telephone line. Specially trained staff members answer the hotline during the day and are prepared to answer questions from both individual parents and group members about their rights and participation in public schools. Related written materials are often sent to the caller.

Staff members report that "top of the line" inquiries are related to discipline, handicapped children and school improvement. Questions asked about handicapped children most often were related to their testing or placement in school.

This service is free to parents all over the country. It is funded by Aetna Life and Casualty Foundation to provide live answering on the lines.

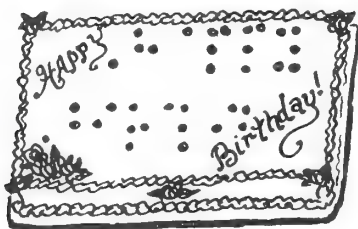
WORKSHOP? MEETING? LECTURE?

To announce in **Awareness** use the following calendar:

| Issue | Received in | Deadline for Submitting | Events to Occur |
|--------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Winter | January | Dec. 1 | Feb/Mar/Apr |
| Spring | April | Mar. 15 | May/June/July |
| Summer | July | June 15 | Aug/Sept/Oct |
| Fall | October | Sept. 15 | Nov/Dec/Jan |

Please submit complete information typed and double spaced, if possible. The editor reserves the right to determine what is published and to edit materials submitted.

LIVING SKILLS HINT



As the parent of a blind/developmentally delayed child, Kate Aldrich (see "Meet Two New NAPVI Board Members," page 1) offers this hint to encourage walking.

"When Ben first started wearing shoes, I put

bells on them. He liked the noise when he moved his feet. It took him a long time to make the connection between the movement and the noise, but he finally did. The bells encouraged him to stamp when he could stand and finally to walk at the age of 2½.

Our newsletter editor, Mary Lou Wilkinson, also offers a hint she's thought about and wants someone to try. "When our sighted youngsters have a birthday, it is common to write a message or their name on the cake in print. Why can't we do the same for our blind child by putting his name on the cake in braille by using M&Ms for the dots in each braille cell?

All of you have tried something that "worked" with your child. Please take time to share with other parents and drop your hint (today! Tomorrow never comes) to our Hints Editor, Gale Hedgecock, 1776 B Frick Avenue, Charleston, SC 29404.

PREPARING FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

This information was condensed from an article by J.R. Hurst, M.Ed, CVE, CWA, vocational coordinator, Texas School for the Blind. If you have an experience in preparing your VI child for work send it to M. L. Wilkinson, 500 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, AR 72335.

Most handicapped students, including the visually impaired, having developmental disabilities which can restrict their potential to work when they become adults, such as perceptual deficits, learning disabilities, neuromotor impairment or emotional problems. To prepare your child to achieve his work potential, then, we must continually assess his strengths and weaknesses as we train him.

To prepare him for the world of work, we look at his learning style, his sensory capacity, the neuromotor skills he already has and his emotional behaviors.

However, assessment and placement of students is only meaningful if there is a planned program to move him to a more productive and independent status.

For handicapped persons it is often necessary to start this special training at an early age. Through this training process, there are common factors and strategies for helping the multihandicapped learn and retain what he's learned. These basic training methods may be incorporated into any curriculum; it is important that all who are a part of the training process use the same techniques. Each student will have his/her own way of perceiving and should be given the opportunity of many modalities and neurological processes to achieve the highest learning possible.

Training the multihandicapped requires that each skill to be learned be broken down to its most basic operation. Those steps then become the learning specifics of the curriculum. When this is achieved, the student's proficiency is simple to evaluate and allows each step of the activity to be evaluated separately. This sequencing makes it easier to identify the areas in which your child needs the most help. The student progresses through many operations to master many tasks.

At the Texas School for the Blind we have adapted the McCarron-Dial Evaluation System to help students train for and obtain an appropriate job. Many of our students have progressed through these initial learning stages to do actual off-campus work around the Austin area.

Through accurate assessment and direct training handicapped students will achieve their highest potential

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AWARENESS NOW AVAILABLE ON TAPE

All those wishing to receive AWARENESS on cassette should notify the NAPVI office. We will provide the first tape and then record over it with the next edition when we receive the first tape back. Or, the member may wish to supply his/her own tapes for use. This service is made possible through the help of Recordings for the Blind and the Visually Impaired Veterans of America, Randolph Greene, President.

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MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI

NAPVI provides its members with support, program information and assistance in improving services, and organizing parent groups. The different categories of membership are:

PARENTS AND FAMILIES (voting members, one vote per membership).

With this membership you receive our quarterly newsletter, legislative alerts, information sharing opportunities, referral to needed services, reduced publication rates, contact with other parents and families and a collective voice. **DUES:\$5.00/year**

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND AGENCIES. Federal, State and Local (non-voting membership).

This membership will receive our quarterly newsletter and related information. **DUES: \$15.00/year**

ASSOCIATE (non-voting member)

This membership category is for individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI. **DUES: \$3.00/year**

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to regular memberships there are contributing memberships available. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service information and assistance to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

- SUPPORTING.** \$50-200
- SPONSORING** \$200-1,000
- PATRON.** over \$1,000

Contributing members will receive recognition for their tax deductible donation to NAPVI.

You can also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents by spreading word of its existence to people who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments, and by letting us know what your needs are.

To join NAPVI or renew your membership for 1985, complete the following application, cut on the dotted line and return with your check to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

The type of membership I am applying for is:

_____ Parents and Families (\$5.00/year)
_____ Parent groups, community groups or agencies (\$15.00/year)
_____ Associate (non-voting; \$3.00/year)
This is a renewal (check one): ☐ Yes ☐ No
SUMMER 1985

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone No. () _____

Signature

To order the following publications, complete the following order form, cut on the dotted line and return, with your check to:

NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

_____ TAKE CHARGE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$5.50)
_____ HOW TO PACK 'EM IN: A GUIDE FOR PARENT WORKSHOPS (\$3.00)
_____ A GUIDE TO LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$9.50)
_____ PARENTS TO THE RESCUE (\$2.00)
_____ YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL (\$5.00)
Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order for _____
Name and mailing address: _____

Signature

PUBLICATIONS FROM NAPVI, INC.

NAPVI PROUDLY INTRODUCES —
YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL

YOUR CHILD'S
INFORMATION
JOURNAL



A new publication from NAPVI simplifies your job as a parent to keep track of the particulars of your child's development. Not only a handy journal, but possibly the most important one you've ever kept!

The first six sections are for keeping track of background information to be filled out before you seek professional help; the next two sections, ("Education Evaluation Summary" and "Special Services Information") are for you to use after a visit with a professional who is testing or treating your child.

This one publication may become the most useful one you have ever kept — and the most important.

YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL may be obtained from the NAPVI/National Office at P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. Cost is \$5.



- support
- information
- service

P.O. BOX 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label now gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after November 1, 1985 becoming 1986 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming — check the bottom line!

Professional Viewpoint . . .

WHAT JOHNNY SEES

By Jim Deremeik, Low Vision Specialist, Maryland School for the Blind.

The first suspicion that a child has a visual impairment is usually felt by his parents; his mother, in particular. This "suspicion" leads to worry, inquiries and a trip to an ophthalmologist, who confirms what the parent fears: "Yes, your child does have a visual impairment."

This experience is never a pleasant one. Parents become confused by the diagnosis of blindness and/or the term "legally blind." The parents' first reaction is "Will glasses help?" When the answer is "no," families of visually impaired children usually begin a doctor-to-doctor search for the "cure," or they withdraw in the face of what they consider a hopeless situation.

How unfortunate for the child! This lack of eye care becomes most apparent during the school-age years. Somewhere the eye care priority has been lost. School vision screening has taken the place of a thorough ophthalmological exam. Because the child has been labeled "blind" is not an excuse to stop routine eye examinations. Whether a child is totally blind or partially sighted, this service is essential when considering various pathologies.

Children are usually prescribed glasses for one of two reasons: improving vision or protecting vision. In this area, parents play an important role. Their feedback helps formulate the child's self-concepts — "I'm an individual who wears glasses and that's okay."

Those who wear protective lenses present both challenge and a threat. The child must understand the importance of this issue. Unfortunately, many a child who should wear glasses does not — "Because they don't look good on me!" As a parent, have you contributed to this mind-set?

"Vision" is a very ambiguous word. According to the eye-care specialist, vision may range from light perception to a reading of 20/20. As a parent, the most important factor you need to consider is not your child's acuity reading, but rather how functional that vision is to your child. Observation of your child will indicate a great deal regarding his vision. Obviously, how much vision your child has will be reflected in your expectations of his visual performance. Do you detect vision in your child? If so, do you expect and encourage him to use this vision?

A very valuable tool for you in assessing your child's vision is the low-vision evaluation. Such an exam will help your child find a way to fully utilize whatever vision he has. It should, however, be used in addition to routine eye care.

It is you, the parent, who must be the initiator of services for your child. This requires a thorough understanding of his vision and its functional implications. The attitudes you demonstrate to your child is reflected in his self-concepts about his vision. Your role cannot be emphasized enough. You can and will make the difference!

"We accomplish in proportion to what we attempt."

—unknown



AWARENESS

FALL 1985

P.O. Box 180806

Austin, Texas 78718

Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor of Newsletter

enVISION Yourself in Dallas!

NAPVI PLANS NATIONAL PARENT CONFERENCE IN 1986

TOPICS TO COVER FULL SPECTRUM

Parental Feelings about Blindness, School Placement, Parents' Rights/Responsibilities, Sex Education, Preschool Programs, Parent Group Formation, Raising Multiply Handicapped Children, Learning to Use Vision, Blindness and the Teen Years, Transition to the World of Work are just a few of the wide range of topics to be discussed at the first-ever National Parent Conference in Dallas, Texas, November 5-8, 1986.

Program Committee Chairman Eileen Hudson, Beloit, WI and her committee, composed of Diana Cuthbertson, Boston, MA and Gail Granados of Norwich, CT, are in the process of contacting session leaders and speakers from the fields of rehabilitation, medicine, social work and education.

During the three-day conference parents and others attending will have a wide range of choice in the workshop sessions they attend. A discussion period will be a part of each presentation.

"Our entire conference is being geared to the parent, so we hope our speakers and presenters will be able to give us wonderful information. There will be opportunities for parents to meet each other and discuss these topics and their own children. It should be of benefit to every parent," Mrs. Hudson said.

The workshop sessions have been planned with the parent interest areas of preschool children, totally blind children, low vision children, elementary school aged children and secondary school aged children in mind, she said.

"In gearing this conference for parents, we also want to emphasize that it will be beneficial for many professionals to attend, also. Continuing education credit units for the conference will be offered in cooperation with the University of Texas at Arlington," she said.

DR. BARRAGA TO KEYNOTE

Noted Educator Dr. Natalie C. Barraga will be the keynote speaker at NAPVI's National Parent Conference.

Dr. Barraga is internationally famous for her work in low vision and training teachers of blind and visually impaired children. She recently retired as head of the University of Texas/Austin Teacher Preparation Program for the Visually Impaired.

She is also the parent of a visually impaired daughter, Karen, so Dr. Barraga has a first-hand perspective of how parents can be involved in and successful at raising a blind or visually impaired child.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

"We, The Parents of Visually Impaired Children, Ourselves..., Our Children..., Our Friends..., " is the theme of NAPVI's first-ever National Parent Conference, set November 5-8, 1986 at the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel/Arlington and the Arlington Convention Center. (Arlington is a Dallas suburb.)

Registration fees include all conference materials, a banquet, three additional meals and a resource book program.

To pre-register for the National Convention and to take advantage of a \$10

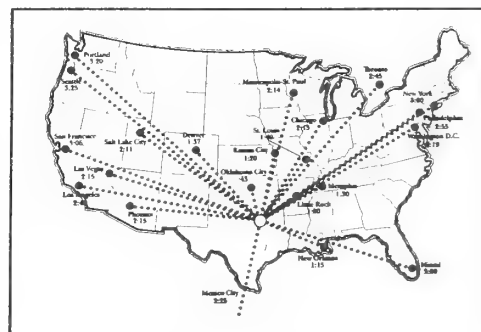
pre-registration discount contact NAPVI Treasurer Henry Hedgecock, 1776-B Frick Avenue, Charleston Air Force Base, SC 29404. (Mr. Hedgecock's address after May 30 will be 2895 State Road, Route 49-RD-2, Blossvale, NY 13308.)

NAPVI member fees for this three-day event will be \$100 for a single parent, \$150 per couple; \$150 for other interested NAPVI members and \$250 per couple; Non-NAPVI Member fees will be \$125 for a single parent, \$200 per couple; \$175 for other interested individual and \$300 per couple.

Those attending the conference must make their own arrangements for lodging and transportation. To make reservations at the Convention site telephone the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, Arlington, TX, 1-800-325-3535.

Hotel rates will be \$60 single or double occupancy (amount subject to state and local taxes). Children under 18 stay at the Sheraton free when in the same room with parents. Unfortunately, NAPVI will not be able to provide child care during the conference. Reservation cards are now available from NAPVI.

NAPVI's official air carrier is Delta Air Lines. A 40 percent discount is offered to those reserving space at least 45 days in advance (35 percent thereafter). The discount period extends from now until Nov. 15, 1986. Make reservations by calling 1-800-241-6760 (mention the NAPVI conference and give the reservation operator File No. E-0224 after December 15.



"SHOPPING" SHOULD ALWAYS BE THIS CONVENIENT!

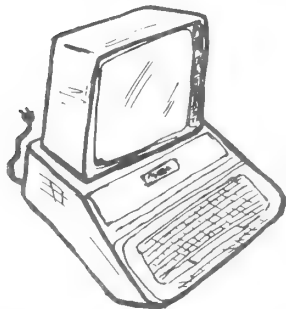
In conjunction with the convention NAPVI has planned a Trade Show, giving parents a first-hand opportunity to see the products and services of many companies and agencies producing items for the visually impaired.

NAPVI Board Member Tom Auletta of Florida, in charge of the trade show, said "It's rare that parents have had this "under-one-roof" opportunity to see such an array of items for their children. We hope this will provide an excellent opportunity for everyone.

The Exhibit Area at the Arlington Convention Center will be open for much of the three-day convention.

NAPVI has a packet of information available to companies and individuals wishing to participate in the Trade Show. To obtain the packet, write NAPVI at P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718, come by the NAPVI office at 713 West St. Johns, Austin, TX 78752 or telephone 512/459-6651.

HIGH TECH TALK



NAPVI is aware that more and more technical developments are opening up markets of equipment that may prove useful to our blind and visually impaired youth. HI-TECH is a new column added to AWARENESS with this in mind. We'll keep information general in line with our policy of not recommending any particular system or brand. If you, as parents, wish to share information pertaining to

your child's experiences with any particular equipment, we will pass it on to our readers.

FLIP-TRACK LEARNING SYSTEMS offers operator training instructions on audio cassettes for various microcomputer hardware and software. Instructions are available for the Apple II and IIe, the IBM PC-XT, Apple-Writer, Wordstar, VisiCalc, MultiPlan and others. For further information, contact FLIP-TRACK Learning Systems, 999 Main Street, Suite 200, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137; (312) 790-1117, or (800) 222-FLIP.

A **PRINTER CONTROL PROGRAM** is available from David Hauck at the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired that enables some dot matrix printers to produce a variety of large print type styles. The printer control program is booted before Braille-Edit, Documents, Applewriter, etc. and then the document that is written can be printed in large, bold print. Write or call David Hauck, ISVI, 658 East Street, Jacksonville, IL 60093 (217) 245-4101, ext. 235.

TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT FOR SALE P2C VersaBraille system—Contact Barbara Mattson at 309 Highland Court Apts., 144 W. Henry St., Spartanburg, SC 29301 or phone: (803) 585-7323, if interested, for sale particulars!

85.1 RESOLUTION ON GROUP HOMES

WHEREAS, group homes can enhance the quality of life, especially for some visually impaired individuals currently placed in state institutions, and

WHEREAS, the existence of such homes will provide a necessary option in the continuum of services available to the visually impaired, and

WHEREAS, proper functioning of such homes is dependent upon adequate support services and follow-up,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, hereby advocates support measures leading to increase the number of placements available in quality group homes as an alternative on the continuum of services available.

85.2 RESOLUTION ON RELATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, NAPVI recognizes that visually impaired children need the services of a credentialed teacher of the visually impaired and that many children need related services including, but not limited to, the following: occupational and/or physical therapy, adaptive P.E., speech and language therapy, orientation and mobility and transportation and

WHEREAS, these services are sometimes not available because of lack of properly credentialed professionals, and

WHEREAS, the school district must retain the responsibility for ensuring that related services are provided for each pupil as determined by the IEP and due process

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November 1-3, 1985, actively supports the provision of appropriate related services to be insured without delay by the school district as specified by state and federal legislation.

85.3 RESOLUTION IN REAFFIRMATION OF P.L. 94-142

In recognition of the tenth anniversary of P.L. 94-142, the National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) is pleased to re-release our 1982 resolution and to re-affirm our commitment to the process and safeguards inherent in landmark legislation:

82.1 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF P.L. 94-142

WHEREAS, The National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI) exists to promote a united effort to acquire and maintain quality services for all blind and visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142 (the Education for all Handicapped Children Act) was implemented as a result of a decade of intensive efforts by parents and professionals working in concert on behalf of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 was intended and designed to promote the social and economic independence of disabled citizens and to reduce the incidence of restrictive and costly custodial institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 is an appropriate mechanism to ensure and provide for the active participation of parents in planning and implementing individualized educational programs for their disabled children, and creates due process safeguards for parental advocacy; and

WHEREAS, such independent parental advocacy, protected by due process safeguards, has stimulated more educational services to children with disabilities than any other period of our national history; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive documentation is required by P.L. 94-142 to assure that legislative intent is carried out, and that such documentation can become excessive and counterproductive to the child's interest if left unchecked; and

WHEREAS, NAPVI supports efforts to keep excessive documentation to a minimum while monitoring individual student needs and the delivery of appropriate and effective educational services designed to ameliorate such needs; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in a significant long-term public savings through the enhancement of independent living skills of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-142 has resulted in increased knowledge and technical benefits in the area of general education, benefiting society as a whole, while decreasing the social dependence of citizens with disabilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI) reaffirms its complete support of P.L. 94-142; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI opposes pending and future attempts to emasculate P.L. 94-142 through deregulation, and especially through those efforts which might result in the elimination or limitation of due process rights, safeguards, procedures, and other key provisions which protect the educational rights of handicapped children, their parents and guardians, and their teachers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI, its members, affiliates and the constituency it represents, unite to safeguard the spirit of P.L. 94-142, and to utilize every available resource to guarantee the rights of disabled children to a free and appropriate public education under this Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NAPVI actively support the full funding and implementation of P.L. 94-142 in the sure knowledge that this Act provides a cost-effective and equitable and moral response to the educational needs of all disabled children in the United States of America.

85.7 RESOLUTION ON AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS

WHEREAS, specially adapted materials are required for visually impaired students to participate fully in the educational process, and

WHEREAS, such materials are not received in a timely manner, that is, by the beginning of the school year for which they are needed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, at its annual meeting in Dallas, Texas, November, 1985, actively supports measures by local school districts, state departments of education and federal agencies to assure delivery of such materials, including, but not limited to, braille, large print, educational aids in the aforementioned timely manner.

EVEN A SMALL SCHOOL CAN By Jeri Hensley, Norman, OK



When we received our third child, Valentino, it was a time of many changes for all of us. Although my husband, Roger, and I had adopted twice before (Michael, 14 and Ana, 11) Tino presented us with many challenges we hadn't dealt with in our other children. At the time of his placement with us, Tino was an 8 year old with significant developmental delays. Until coming to live with us, Tino went to a self-contained day school for the visually impaired.

Shortly after Tino's placement with us, we purchased a new home in what we'd been told was the school district of a large university town; instead, we found that we were moving into a small, dependent school district which had never before served a visually impaired child. But what could have been an educational disaster for Tino and an emotional disaster for everyone involved didn't turn out that way. Instead, with the cooperation, ingenuity and hard work of everyone involved, a creative and productive educational program was implemented for our son.

Because I wanted to make the transition come about as smoothly as possible, I contacted the school district as soon as I knew we were moving (about two months before we actually moved). I provided the school with copies of Tino's educational records, including the IEP (Individualized Educational Program) he had at the time. I stayed in touch with the school and, a few weeks before we moved, I arranged to visit.

At this point, the school seemed to have a fairly good idea of the program they wanted to set up. I found that the district had made a commitment to provide services, whenever possible, for special education children without transferring them to other districts. They had a lab teacher, certified in LD (Learning Disabilities) and EMH (Educably Mentally Handicapped), whose lab could be modified to Tino (who was at the time EMH-eligible). They also had a second grade teacher who was more than willing to have Tino mainstreamed into her class for a part of the day, even though he couldn't work at grade level. The PE teacher was being made aware of Tino's limitations and the speech teacher was ready to work with him. The school was still looking for a VI teacher to coordinate Tino's program and work with him and his teachers on a part-time basis.

Finding a VI teacher was the major stumbling block we faced in setting up Tino's program. As a resource both for Tino and his teachers, someone with experience in this area was essential. Networking was the solution. I provided the principal with the names and phone numbers of everyone I was aware of in the field. Using those and his own contacts, he was finally able to locate an experienced VI teacher who was willing to contract with the school as a consultant.

Now that we had all the elements in place, all that was left was to put them together. Our family moved and Tino transferred schools over the Christmas holiday. I met with school officials and we wrote a temporary IEP, which lasts up to 30 days and allows teachers who have never seen a child time to observe him and decide how best to serve him.

When we met again in about four weeks the IEP team, which consisted of the assistant principal, the classroom teacher, and the lab teacher, the speech teacher, the VI consultant and myself, wrote a very comprehensive IEP for Tino; however, by that time his program was already pretty much in place.

The VI consultant spent one morning a week at the school. She conducted an informal evaluation of Tino's skills and began teaching the lab teacher braille. She introduced the lab teacher to the Library for the Blind and other resources. She obtained and manufactured materials for Tino's use, instructed his teachers in their use and corrected assignments written in braille. After Tino became more or less accustomed to the new environment time was spent directly with him on specific skills relating to reading and writing braille. At the end of the school year she wrote a report detailing Tino's observed progress.

Tino went to music, PE and lunch with a regular second grade class. The balance of his time was spent in the second grade classroom. Although mainstreaming Tino to a regular class was done mainly to meet social objectives, his teacher included him in an oral reading group, class discussions and activities. He went on a field trip with his class and even participated in the second grade play.

At the end of the year Tino's progress was amazing. Although he had never been in a regular classroom before, Tino finished the year showing the self-discipline to remain in that setting for extended periods of time. He was well liked by his classmates and participated in all their non-academic activities. He made great improvement in his braille skills, progressing from the use of the alphabet and thirteen contractions to the use of over seventy contractions at the end of the school year. He made good progress in academics and improved his language skills as well.

None of this was due to luck. It took hard work and cooperation on the part of everyone involved. The school didn't throw up its hands. Tino was not shipped "somewhere else." There are children all over the country in similar situations. Why did this one work out so well? I think there are several specific reasons.

(1) I gave the school district as much notice of our move into the system as possible and provided them with concrete information about Tino's background and education. This is important because it takes time to locate resources and set up a program, especially for a school with no prior experience teaching a blind child.

(2) I knew what I wanted for Tino educationally. I went to the school prepared to talk about specific needs he had and goals I wanted addressed. The best thing you can do for your child educationally is to understand the system and be an active participant in the IEP team.

(3) Everyone who helped set up Tino's program networked with members of a local parent group, officials at the State Department of Education, the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and rehabilitation specialists from Visual Services of the Department of Human Resources.

(4) Everyone remained flexible. Even with all the elements of a good program, it's possible to get bogged down when it comes to putting it together. Schedules, materials, responsibilities and skills don't always mesh perfectly, especially at first. With time and flexibility, the program can become what we had all envisioned.

A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI - HERE'S HOW

Henry and Gale Hedgecock of Charleston AFB, SC have become the first "Lifetime Members" of NAPVI, donating over \$1,000 to the organization. They are the parents of Craig, 16, who has retrolental fibroplasia and is totally blind. Craig attends a public high school in Charleston.

The Hedgecocks, who have been NAPVI members since the organization was organized in 1980, have also contributed untold hours to this young, national organization. As the NAPVI Treasurer Henry has established fiscal policies and procedures that have guided the organization through those first difficult years and placed it on a more secure footing. Gale was a member of the Board of Directors for several years before "retiring" to keep track of the NAPVI membership.

The Lifetime Member designation was approved by the Board at its November meeting. Anyone contributing more than \$1,000 in accumulated donations will be designated a "Lifetime Member."

Memorials

Noma Wilkinson by
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon England

TENNESSEE PARENTS ORGANIZE

The Tennessee Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired held its first organizational meeting Sept. 7 at Henry Horton State Park in Nashville. Twenty members, mostly parents of pre-school children, elected officers: Susan Womack, president pro-tem, Marilyn Handell, vice-president, Cynthia Minnick, secretary and Christopher Cook, treasurer. They elected their first board and planned another meeting for January, 1986, when bylaws will be adopted. The bylaws will follow outlines drawn up by NAPVI for local parent groups to become affiliates.

In the meantime, members are busy working on a new statewide network, Outreach Parents, developing a braille study group at the Tennessee School for the Blind and working on a pamphlet for publication. The new parent organization (TAPVI) is scheduling local meetings throughout Tennessee and planning on a fall retreat for annual meetings. A membership drive is now in progress. For more information about becoming a member and/or assisting with the group's projects, contact Susan Womack, 769 Oakdell, Madison, TN 37115.

BRAILLE PRESCRIPTION LABELING OFFERED

Braille prescription labeling is now available to anyone in need of such a service — children, adults, senior citizens, etc. — from the American Association of Retired Persons Pharmacy Service. To receive braille labels, send a copy of the prescription to AARP Pharmacy, 3557 Lafayette Road, P.O. Box 7010, Indianapolis, IN 46272.

A print and braille transparent dymo label will be made for the medicine bottle listing the prescription number, name of drug and the strength of the drug. For more specific information call (317) 293-6235.

FROM THE NAPVI MAILBOX

On the renewal form for membership in NAPVI, there is a "We'd like to hear from you..." section on the bottom. Many of our parents have written follows:

"If possible, I would like to see more stories from families with visually handicapped children. Also, is there some way that I could be put in touch with a family who has a visually handicapped child about the same age as my son? Or, could I correspond with a family who has a child slightly older? Maybe members could give their permission for you to print their names, the child's amount of vision and child's age. I and other members could correspond with them. If you should decide to do this, I would give my permission. My child is Brent, age 5 years, and we hope he will be a large print reader."

Janene L. Heyen
Route 1
Otoe, NE 68417
Tel. (402) 265-3101

(Ed.'s Note: We appreciate your suggestions and have been advised by other parents that they like to hear personal stories. This month features a parent from Oklahoma. We would like to print more, but we must depend on you, our parents, to provide us with them.)

"We have successfully (through a hearing and appeal) obtained door-to-door bus transportation for our seven multi-handicapped blind child each weekend between home and the residential school 100 miles away. He is picked up at school each Friday afternoon, brought home and, on Sunday afternoon, he is picked up at home and returned to school. We will be glad to share our legal submissions with the association if you are interested. It took a year, but it was worth it. Our son is making tremendous progress."

Olan and Linda Hembree
1741 Kimberly Drive
Marietta, GA 30060
Tel. (404) 427-5274

"We have had marvelous success with Margo (age 10). She would love to hear from parents who have children with R. Margo is a "triplet" and has had great fun with her brother and sister. Just recently (year and a half) we discovered Margo's musical gift with the piano. She's a super kid who has to be "reminded" that she has vision problems, blind in one eye and very poor vision in the other. She uses a vision aide (Pelco) but can see large print. She tires easily with reading but seems to do better all the time. Margo has learned to use her sight much better each year. Hope to hear from some parents to share fun, fears, etc. etc."

Margaret A. Muse
6569 Glacier Avenue
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
Tel. (614) 886-1007

"Sometimes my husband and I would like someone to talk to concerning the discipline problems we have with our daughter, who is very strong-willed. Maybe ways to deal with certain disobediences!"

Darrell and Bonnie Rhoades
1005 Clinton
Ottumwa, IA 52201
Tel. (515) 684-6925

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE SCHEDULED

The American Foundation for the Blind, with federal funding from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services of the United States Department of Education, will hold the second phase of the National Leadership Institute on Transition in New Orleans, January 8-11, 1986. The special focus of the Institute will be "Collaborative Planning: Transition from School to the World of Work."

There will be two types of participants at the Institute. Individual leadership personnel who are interested in transition are invited to attend at their own expense. The other participants will be selected team members representing education, rehabilitation, parents and consumers from 26 target states. These team members have been selected from nominations made by representative agencies and organizations in our field, because they are believed to be able to bring about change in their states. These teams of four will work both during and after the Institute to develop and/or improve collaborative agreements for effective transition services within their respective states.

The program for the institute is designed to give participants information about several exemplary projects and to give hands-on experience in team building and collaborative planning. Teams will leave the Institute with action plans and strategies for implementation.

Target states for this Institute are Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Wyoming.

OVER \$25,000 TO BE AWARDED BY ACB IN 1986 TO SCHOLARS

Seventeen scholarships totaling \$25,000 will be awarded by the American Council of the Blind to outstanding blind and visually impaired students in 1986. The awards will range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 each.

All legally blind persons admitted to academic, vocational, technical or professional training programs at the postsecondary level of the 1986/87 school year are encouraged to apply for one of these scholarships.

The Floyd Qualls Memorial Scholarships, totaling \$24,000 will be awarded to top students in each of these categories: entering freshmen in academic programs, undergraduates (sophomores, juniors, seniors) in academic programs, graduate students in academic or professional programs and trade/technical school students. Applicants will be compared with other applicants in their category, which means that entering freshmen in academic programs will be competing for funds with other first-year students.

The Melva T. Owens Memorial Scholarship, provided by the Tarver Foundation, in the amount of \$1,500, will be granted to an outstanding student at the undergraduate level.

Applications are available from the ACB Scholarships, 1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. *All completed applications and supporting documents must be postmarked no later than April 1, 1986.*

A professional viewpoint... O & M IN THE PRE-SCHOOL... AND BEYOND

By Jimmy Jones

(Ed. Note: Jimmy Jones is an O & M Specialist for Educational Services for the Visually Impaired in the State of Arkansas)

Orientation and Mobility (O & M) can be defined as the learning of specific skills and techniques to enable a blind or visually impaired person to travel safely, independently and gracefully in a familiar or unfamiliar environment.

To pre-school and young school age children, O & M means learning to walk around safely in their home, yard, school, church or any place they frequently go. The O & M needs of any child will vary, depending on the on-set of blindness, degree of visual loss, age, other handicapping conditions and even where he lives.

Pre-school and young school-age children with low vision or no vision at all usually need more work in the area of body concepts, which involves learning body parts and their functions, body planes such as top, bottom, side, and sensory motor or movement activities. Stimulation by moving, touching, listening and smelling, as well as specific movement activities, such as crawling, walking, climbing and jumping, is critical in developing the child's awareness of how his body moves and what is around him.

Mobility specialists can recommend specific activities after they evaluate and work with the child on these activities. However, parents play the major role in teaching the basic concepts because they are with their child every day and most of the concepts are part of everyday activities. Games such as "Get You," where the parent says "I'm going to get your arm," then touches the child's arm, can make the child aware of where his arm and other body part is located. The child can then get the parent's arm because it's important that the child realize that other people have the same body parts.

Trips to the grocery store can also be a teaching experience because the child can learn to identify fruits and vegetables, shapes, textures, size and weight. Activities such as these can be recommended by a mobility specialist, but the key is *follow-up by parents.*

The learning of body parts, planes, body movements and developing an awareness of the environment basically prepares the pre-school child for learning specific orientation and mobility travel skills. Orientation involves the child's awareness of his location in the environment and of the objects around him. Mobility involves the learning of specific skills to protect and aid in traveling in the environment.

Specific pre-cane travel skills that are taught to pre-school and school age children include proper sighted guide techniques, protective arms skills (upper arm and lower arm), trailing and squaring off. These skills are very important and should be taught by a mobility instructor, but can and should be reinforced by the parent. These skills should be learned and used before cane travel is introduced. Cane travel can begin after the child learns and uses pre-cane travel skills. Factors that determine when a child begins cane travel include: maturity, need, muscle strength and coordination.

When O & M training begins at an early age, a strong foundation related to independent travel can be established. Such training at an early age can give your child the edge he or she needs to make it in a sighted world.

LIVING SKILLS HINT

Put a little bit of peanut butter in the bottom of the ice cream cone to fill the little hole in the bottom before you put the ice cream in. No more drips!

All of you have tried something that "worked" with your child. Please take time to share with other parents and drop your hint (today! Tomorrow never comes) to our Hints Editor, Gale Hedgecock, 1776-B Frick Avenue, Charleston AFB, SC 29404.

SOME THINGS DON'T MAKE ANY SENSE AT ALL

My mom says I'm her sugarplum.

My mom says I'm her lamb.

My mom says I'm completely perfect just the way I am.

My mom says I'm a super-special wonderful terrific little guy.

My mom just had another baby.

Why?

—Judith Viorst

"FREE MATTER" NEWS GOOD

Congress passed a budget for fiscal year 1986 on August 1. The revenue foregone appropriation for the United States Postal Service which includes the "Free Matter" mailing privilege so vital to your library service amounted to \$764 million. It is assumed that reduction from the requested \$981 million affects mailing rates other than "Free Matter for the Blind and Handicapped".

The apparent continuation of funding for "Free Matter" should impress upon all who wrote letters and made telephone calls to our senators and congressmen in Washington, how important your efforts were. Congratulations and thanks to all who participated in the effort to maintain our library mailing privileges.

Postal Code 135 allows materials to be sent FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND only if they are raised characters (such as braille) or in 14-point or larger sight saving type or in the form of sound recordings. If you are unsure of whether or not something is allowable under the code, ask your local postmaster.

DR. SCHOLL AWARDED MEDAL

Dr. Geraldine Scholl, professor of education at the University of Michigan, has been awarded the 1985 Migel Medal, given annually by the American Foundation for the Blind "to honor professionals whose dedication and achievement have significantly improved the lives of blind and visually impaired people."

During her 43-year career as teacher, researcher and administrator in the field of blindness, Dr. Scholl has led efforts to improve standards of service and to establish standards for teacher competency, to upgrade assessment techniques, to provide visually handicapped youngsters with vocational counseling and training, and to increase interaction between the researcher and the practitioner.

COPING

(From *READINGS FOR PARENTS - A HANDICAPPED CHILD IN THE FAMILY*, Washington County Children's Program Outreach Project, P.O. Box 311, Machias, ME 04654)

Being the parent of a handicapped child can be demanding, lonely and frustrating. It can be hard to listen to the "professionals" who may tell you, "Let's wait and see how your child develops," "Things aren't so bad," or "You're lucky your child's defect is not so apparent." Having a family and friends who may deny a problem exists, or try to make things be what they are not, can make it even more difficult for you to get the necessary emotional support for raising your handicapped child.

Learning how to cope with intense feelings and day-to-day living, as well as each new situation which arises for your child, is not easy. Parents find many different ways to cope. Following are suggestions which have worked for other parents:

1. *Acknowledgement that a problem exists is the beginning.* The doctor's office is often where a problem is first detected. When your doctor listens and responds to your fears or concerns, you can start to deal with them. As one mother described it, "When a doctor agreed that there was a problem with my son's development, my concerns were validated. I learned that I could be assertive, that I was not simply being over-protective." It makes you feel stronger if someone agrees there is reason for concern; then you can *act*.
2. *Learn how to ask for help, both for you and your child.* In order to get services, you need to learn to speak up. Many parents find this very difficult. Start by asking your doctor or a counselor in a human service agency whom you trust.
3. *Trust others to become involved with your child.* It will help you cope with new situations. For instance, if your child is in pre-school, the adults in that program want to share with you the joys and new accomplishments, as well as regressions or defeats. You need others who understand and can speak for your child.
4. *Find support from people who have gone through a similar experience.* A parent support group can give you strength. Listening to others tell of their successes helps you learn how to make your needs known. Such a group can help you find necessary resources and services.
5. *Counseling can be useful.* It can help partners maintain their relationships with each other, their child and other children in the family. Not all parents feel the need for counseling, but for many, it is important to reach out, to be able to talk to someone with experience. Trying to cope "on your own" can be both frightening and defeating.
6. *Find someone, a partner, family member, or close friend, to count on.* Take someone with you when you go for an evaluation or a visit to the doctor with your child. Just having the physical presence of a friend can be very supportive for you.
7. *Respite care is essential.* Allowing yourself to take a break and do something just for yourself will benefit both you and your child in the long run. In many areas you will find agencies or organizations that provide respite care for families with special needs.

MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI

NAPVI provides its members with support, program information and assistance in improving services, and organizing parent groups. The different categories of membership are:

PARENTS AND FAMILIES (voting members, one vote per membership).

With this membership you receive our quarterly newsletter, legislative alerts, information sharing opportunities, referral to needed services, reduced publication rates, contact with other parents and families and a collective voice. **DUES: \$5.00/year**

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND AGENCIES. Federal, State and Local (non-voting membership).

This membership will receive our quarterly newsletter and related information. **DUES: \$15.00/year**

ASSOCIATE (non-voting member)

This membership category is for individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI. **DUES: \$3.00/year**

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to regular memberships there are contributing memberships available. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service information and assistance to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

SUPPORTING \$50-200

SPONSORING \$200-1,000

PATRON over \$1,000

Contributing members will receive recognition for their tax deductible donation to NAPVI.

You can also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents by spreading word of its existence to people who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments, and by letting us know what your needs are.

To join NAPVI or renew your membership for 1986, complete the following application, cut on the dotted line and return with your check to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

The type of membership I am applying for is:

_____ Parents and Families (\$5.00/year)

_____ Parent groups, community groups or agencies (\$15.00/year)

_____ Associate (non-voting; \$3.00/year)

This is a renewal (check one): ☐ Yes ☐ No

FALL 1985

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. () _____

Signature

PUBLICATIONS FROM NAPVI, INC.

NAPVI PROUDLY INTRODUCES — YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL

YOUR CHILD'S
INFORMATION
JOURNAL



A new publication from NAPVI simplifies your job as a parent to keep track of the particulars of your child's development. Not only a handy journal, but possibly the most important one you've ever kept!

The first six sections are for keeping track of background information to be filled out before you seek professional help; the next two sections, ("Education Evaluation Summary" and "Special Services Information") are for you to use after a visit with a professional who is testing or treating your child.

This one publication may become the most useful one you have ever kept — and the most important.

YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL may be obtained from the NAPVI/National Office at P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. Cost is \$5.

To order the following publications, complete the following order form, cut on the dotted line and return, with your check to:

NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

_____ TAKE CHARGE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$5.50)

_____ HOW TO PACK 'EM IN: A GUIDE FOR PARENT WORKSHOPS (\$3.00)

_____ A GUIDE TO LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$9.50)

_____ PARENTS TO THE RESCUE (\$2.00)

_____ YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL (\$5.00)

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order for _____

Name and mailing address: _____

Signature



- support
- information
- service

P.O. BOX 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

NON PROFIT ORG.
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Austin, Texas
Permit No. 980

THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label now gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after November 1, 1985 becoming 1986 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming — check the bottom line!

SOMEDAY YOU PROBABLY WILL

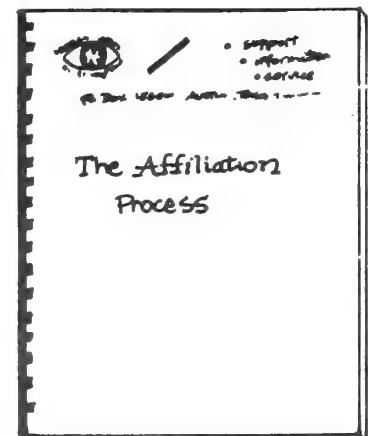
“It’s like an insurance policy. When you take it out, you hope you never have to use it....but you know that someday you probably will need it.”

With those words NAPVI Board Member Jeanie Flack described NAPVI affiliation at the recent Annual Board of Directors Meeting in Dallas, TX.

“We know there are some very strong local parent groups, capable of taking care of their own memberships and very successful at raising the funds necessary to do so, but someday they may very well need the “insurance” that membership in a strong and viable national organization will give them. That’s why all of us on the NAPVI Board work so hard at establishing procedures for affiliates, why we travel to so many meetings and talk to so many individuals and groups, encouraging NAPVI/national affiliation. We don’t know when we’re going to need the “protection.”

Citing recent national trends toward “umbrella services” in which all handicapped children are served in the same programs, Mrs. Flack said that a strong national organization is needed to remind everyone that blind and visually impaired children have very unique needs that often can only be served by trained professionals in the field of blindness, such as orientation and mobility, braille skills, low-vision, etc.

NAPVI has served five affiliate chapters: The California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (CAPVI); The New York State Parents of Visually Handicapped Children; The Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children PTO (Pittsburgh); The Omaha Parents of Visually Impaired Children and NAPVI/Ohio. Currently, many state and local groups are talking over NAPVI affiliation. To become a NAPVI affiliate a group must have at least 15



members and at least 50 percent of the officers must be parents of visually impaired children. (For more information about *The Affiliation Process*, write NAPVI, P.O. 180806, Austin, TX 78718.)

“When you ask what NAPVI can do for your group the answer right now might be “not much more than offer you the help and advice that we can by phone or letter, by providing speakers for your meeting and by keeping you informed through our newsletter...but with all of us pulling together keep parents of visually impaired children connected nationally through NAPVI, someday...and maybe in the not-too-distant future...our “policy” will pay off at a very critical time. I think the question is not “Why should my group affiliate with NAPVI?” but “How can my group help the national remain a strong, viable voice so it will be there if and when we need it?” she said.



AWARENESS

1986

SECOND QUARTER

Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor

Guest Editorial...

GRAMM-RUDMAN WILL KILL EDUCATION FOR HANDICAPPED

By Mary Hatwood Futrell

(Editor's note: Mary Hatwood Futrell is president of the National Education Association. Reprinted from the Arkansas Democrat (March 23, 1986).

Donald Bernhardt is a freshman at Penn State, an above-average student with his sights set on a career in computer science. Donald credits his success to his years at East Allegheny High School in Pennsylvania. It's there, he says, that he started "becoming part of the mainstream of life."

Donald Bernhardt has cerebral palsy. Only a decade ago, students with Donald's disability were educational outcasts, strangers to mainstream schools. That harsh exclusionism came to an end in 1975 after Congress enacted legislation to help local schools educate disabled youngsters.

Without this federal program, Donald would have missed the escape from isolation that his enrollment at East Allegheny High ensured. He would have missed his advanced courses in English, biology, algebra and French. He would have missed classes in swimming, archery and weight training. He would have missed the senior prom that he attended in his wheelchair.

And today, Donald Bernhardt wouldn't be at Penn State, strolling the tree-lined campus with thousands of other undergraduates in what he calls his "scooter."

But what about tomorrow? Will schools be able to offer future Donald Bernhardts the education—and the opportunity—they deserve? I don't think so, not as long as we as a nation allow Gramm-Rudman-Hollings to define our social agenda and dictate fiscal priorities.

Gramm-Rudman-Hollings is, of course, the deficit-reducing act signed into law late last year. This past week saw the implementation of the first program cuts this legislation mandates. And now before Congress is a White House budget—a design for demolition—that aims to meet the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings targets for fiscal 1987.

The White House budget recommends a cut of \$107 million in funding for education of the handicapped, a reduction that could deny service to handicapped students in 1,100 school districts. It also proposes slicing funding for handicapped vocational rehabilitation by \$90 million, a fiscal "savings" that would effectively abolish vocational rehabilitation services for 500,000 students.

Deficit reduction is, of course, necessary. Our legacy to future generations must not be an annual \$220 billion payment-due notice. But Gramm-Rudman-Hollings draws no distinction between deficit reduction and domestic destruc-

INSIDE: A SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION

This edition of *AWARENESS* contains a special pull-out section about NAPVT's First National Parent Conference, slated Nov. 5-8, 1986 in Arlington, TX, located between Dallas and Ft. Worth. It also contains 10 chances for you (or one of your neighbors!) to win a week-long stay at a Myrtle Beach, South Carolina condominium.

tion. Fundamentally, this legislation is not about eliminating debt. It's about eliminating hope.

I mean elimination literally. By 1991, many basic federal "people programs" will simply no longer exist. The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings arithmetic is inexorable.

Let me explain. The automatic cuts specified for fiscal 1987 would excise a full third of all federal aid to education. But 1987 is no more than ax-sharpening season. That ax will dictate the shape of federal budgets for the next five years; each year between now and 1991, at least \$36 billion will be carved out of annual federal spending.

Where will these billions come from? Much of the federal budget—interest payments on the national debt, for instance—is exempt from the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings automatic budget slicer. The remaining non-exempt federal programs are supposed to bear the burden of cutbacks equally, with half of all reductions coming from non-exempt military spending and half from non-exempt domestic spending. That sounds "fair" until you realize that the government annually allots three times as much money to non-exempt military programs than to their domestic counterparts.

Let's suppose Gramm-Rudman-Hollings mandates a \$50 billion cut from next year's budget. The \$25 billion defense share of this cut would be axed out of current defense spending of \$285 billion. By contrast, the \$25 billion domestic share of the cut would be ripped from current domestic spending of only \$103 billion.

Gramm-Rudman-Hollings aims, in the name of fairness, to slice fiscal fat from an economically anorexic body of essential social programs. A few more years of such fairness and there would be nothing left on the domestic side. Nothing left AT ALL for the Donald Bernhardts of tomorrow.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings automatic deficit reduction mechanism would, on October 1, 1986, indiscriminately cut across vital federal programs addressing the needs of visually impaired persons of all ages, and

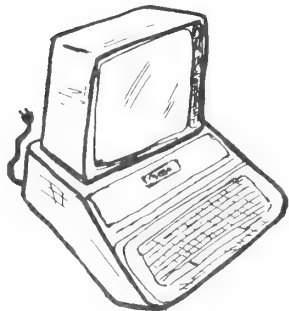
WHEREAS, this mechanism was intended by its authors and supporters in the Congress only as a last resort for achieving federal deficit reductions, and

WHEREAS, the Congress has the Constitutional authority to achieve fiscal responsibility without resorting to automatic mechanisms, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the American Council of the Blind, the American Foundation for the Blind, the Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Affiliated Leadership League of and for the Blind of America, the Blinded Veterans Association, the General Council of Workshops for the Blind, National Industries for the Blind call upon the Congress of the United States to reassert its Constitutional responsibility, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these organizations respectfully urge the Congress to proceed in timely fashion with budget resolutions and appropriation measures in order to ensure preservation and funding for vitally needed programs for the visually impaired.

HIGH TECH TALK



NAPVI is aware that more and more technical developments are opening up markets of equipment that may prove useful to our blind and visually impaired youth. HI-TECH is a new column added to AWARENESS with this in mind. We'll keep information general in line with our policy of not recommending any particular system or brand. If you, as parents, wish to share information pertaining to

your child's experiences with any particular equipment, we will pass it on to our readers.

VERT PLUS, the newest addition to Telesensory's VERT Systems, offers understandable speech and high quality voice. VERT PLUS pronounces words, phrases and sentence intonations (questions, statements and exclamations). The VERT PLUS software and utilities cost \$1,995. For more information contact Telesensory Systems, Inc., 455 North Bernardo Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94043, (415) 960-0920.

COMPUTER-RELATED RESOURCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY is a compilation designed primarily for visually impaired children/adults and their teachers. The publication is presently 81 pages and is available in print and on VersaBraille cassette. To order specify print or VB copy. A VB cassette can be sent to receive the data. Send check for \$6 payable to Grace D. Napier to: Division of Educational Studies, College of Education, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639.

TACTIC, a new braille quarterly magazine on microcomputers and adaptive technology for the blind, began publication in March, 1985. It will include reviews by users of existing braille voice systems, current reviews of the literature on newly developed hardware and software and a forum for blind consumers to share problems and solutions. **ConnSENSE** is a newsletter published by the Special Education Resource Center at the University of Connecticut. It includes over a dozen software reviews of educational and game programs, with special attention given to their suitability to special education and adaptability users. For more information and a membership application write to: ConnSENSE, UConn, U-64, Room 227, Glenbrook Road, Storrs, CT 06268.

MPRINT, a device that produces braille and print simultaneously, is a microprocessor based system that works in conjunction with a standard Perkins Brailier. For more information, write VTEK, 1625 Olympia Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404, 1-800-345-2256.

SHOPPING BAG

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about their item with the NAPVI membership. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion.

Juvenile Braille Monthly is a magazine edited and produced at Clovernook Home and School for the Blind, under the sponsorship of the Lions Club International Foundation. The magazine comprises about 60 braille pages per issue containing stories, poems, articles, games and puzzles selected from the print magazine **HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN**. **HIGHLIGHTS** describes itself as a "book of wholesome fun...dedicated to helping children grow—in basic skills and knowledge—in creativeness—in ability to think and reason—in sensitivity to others—in high ideals—and worthy ways of living—for CHILDREN are the world's most important people." The magazine is available free of charge, through the generous support of the Lions Club International Foundation. To receive the magazine, write to Juvenile, Clovernook Home and School for the Blind, 7000 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45231.

A WORLD OF OPTIONS is a book dedicated to expanding the horizons of people with disabilities, enabling them to participate in opportunities offered by international exchange programs, international workcamps and travel. Order from MIUSA (see related article), P.O. Box 3551, Eugene, OR 97403. Cost is \$13 for members and \$15 for nonmembers.

SPECIAL EDUCATION MATERIALS: A MIXED MEDIA CATALOG listing over 200 titles is being offered by the National Clearing House of Rehabilitation Training Materials (NCHRTM). The 90-page catalog includes print, videotapes, audiocassettes, films and slide sets and the topics addressed are wide-ranging. For more information or to order catalog send \$5 plus \$1 shipping and handling to NCHRTM, 115 Old USDA Building, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078.

THE COMMUNICATOR, a new bimonthly newsletter designed for those who teach the visually handicapped, is now available. **THE COMMUNICATOR** is published by a not-for-profit group of concerned educators. It covers all areas of the visually handicapped population with a heavy slant toward new advances in technology and how these advances can and are being used. Each issue, which covers teaching hints, software reviews, user comments and reader suggestions, contains a minimum of four pages. A one-year subscription of six issues costs \$6 or you may send \$1 per issue. Contact: **THE COMMUNICATOR**, Route 4, Box 263, Hillsville, VA 24343, (703) 766-3869.

A FUNNY ALPHABET is a free 3-D book offered by the Xavier Society for the Blind to visually impaired preschool children to help them learn their basic concepts of shapes and textures of objects and animals. To obtain a copy of **A FUNNY ALPHABET** or to find out more about the Xavier Society for the Blind, call or write: 154 East 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010, (212) 473-7800. (From **WVRK Newsletter**)

SEVEN LETTERS is a free booklet that answers questions about stocks and bonds with a brief explanation of the securities market, by stockbroker Clarence Wolf, Jr. Free braille copies are available for the first 350 persons who request them. Write to APH, P.O. Box 6085, Louisville, KY 40206-0085.

THE BIG EYE LAMP, according to its manufacturer, is a high intensity lamp with a 5-inch magnifying lens attachment which can enlarge images to two times their original size. With a power booster device, individuals with very low vision can gain greater magnification. It is non-fluorescent and comes in floor and table-mounted models. For information and prices, contact: Big Eye Lamp, Inc., 68 Yellow Brook Road, Farmingdale, NJ 07727, (201) 938-2490.

ELECTIONS GEAR UP

Annual elections to the NAPVI Board of Directors in September will allow for a member to be elected from Region V (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas and New Mexico) and Region VI (Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Arizona, Hawaii, Utah, Washington and Guam). The system of rotation of board members also allows for a term of three years for newly elected members.

At present, Region V is represented by Jeanie Flack of Montana and Region VI is represented by Kate Aldrich of California.

Those members interested should secure a Nominee Fact Sheet from Nominations Committee Chairperson Diana Cuthbertson, 21 Milford Street, Boston, MA 02118 (Tel. 617-426-5567) and return it NO LATER than July 15, 1986.

The fact sheet should be accompanied by three letters of reference (including one from a professional source, such as a teacher, principal, clergyman, civic or charitable leader or medical contact).

Nominees for the election will receive notification from the committee informing them of their nomination, pending interview with the current board member from the region

involved and the necessity to submit a letter of intent to serve on the board, if elected.

Ballots will be mailed only to voting members (parent/family) in Regions V and VI.

CRITERIA:

Criteria for nominees to the Board include:

1. Must be the parent of a visually impaired child;
2. Must be a member of NAPVI/National for at least one year;
3. Must be actively involved in areas associated with the visually impaired, such as, but not limited to, parent organizations on a local or state level, state school or local PTO or PTA or other community groups that can help increase awareness and support parents of the visually impaired;
4. Must be able to attend all board meetings and any other required NAPVI/National functions. (Travel expenses are reimbursed.)
5. Must hold office for the term elected or until a successor has been selected and qualified. Present members of the Board may run for re-election one time.

Dear NAPVI Editor and NAPVI Parents,

My visually impaired daughter receives materials from the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. We appreciate their services; however, we notice there is a lack of materials available for the early school-aged child.

My thoughts are that awareness of this lack is not apparent to the people producing new materials and that, by our letting them know, they will do something about it.

This is one of the things that I feel we, as parents, can do to improve services for our children. I believe if we each take a few minutes to call or write our state/local Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to bring to their attention this need for new materials for our younger children (and make it a request) that they will be encouraged to do so.

Provisions of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act call for severe cuts in funding for the library and it is important for us to let our needs be known.

Sincerely,

Diana Cuthbertson, Massachusetts
Member, NAPVI Board of Directors

(Ed.'s Note: The National Library Service is always seeking input about the program from users across the country. One of the more formalized ways they obtain these contributions is through ad hoc committees made up of librarians, patrons, consumer group representatives and NLS staff. An ad hoc committee meeting in May was concerned with publications produced by NLS. One member of this committee is Nancy Hope Willis, 2804 Alderman Court, Greensboro, NC 27408. Regardless of the date you are reading this, you may wish to contact her in addition to your local/state library service to request materials for our younger children.)

BLIND LOUISIANA, GERMAN YOUTHS MAKE "EXCHANGE" FUN!

By Sue Hansen, Louisiana School for VI

The Volunteer Services Council has just completed the first of a two-phase educational exchange program between the Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired and the National Schools for the Visually Impaired in Wuerzburg and Munich, Germany.

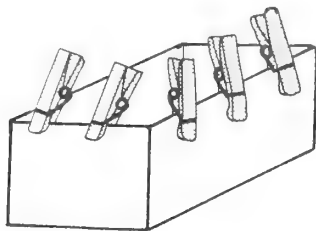
Phase one, just completed, consisted of the German schools sending 16 students and four staff members to the Louisiana school on March 11. The students and staff were assigned to homeroom teachers and participated in the academic day as would any other student or staff member. After-school activities included tours and trips throughout Louisiana, as well as a variety of recreational activities, including horseback riding and tours to a swamp, an alligator farm, some plantation homes and much, much more.

The agreement between LSVI and the National Schools of Germany provided that all lodging, meals and activities would be the responsibility of the host school. As a result, these activities were provided at no cost to the German students and staff. This was accomplished through community support in the form of complementary hotel rooms, meals and admissions to the various activities and tours. These arrangements reduced the cost for the German students and staff trip to Louisiana to round trip airfare from Germany and back. The German schools will reciprocate in like manner when the LSVI students and staff arrive in Germany July 7 for a three-week visit.

This exchange program has created a tremendous learning experience for our students and staff.

LIVING SKILLS HINT

- (1) To help the young child develop strength in his/her fingers as well as eye-hand coordination, give him/her clothespins to clip around the edges of a shoe box—makes a good "cage" to put toys and animals in.
- (2) Use an empty bleach container (well cleaned out) to make a ball or bean bag catcher. Just cut it off below the handle and use to catch the ball or bean bag. Suppose you could do the same thing with a gallon milk carton?
- (3) A tube sock turned inside out and slipped over the hand makes an excellent washcloth—and it stays in place!



Do you have a living skills hint that you think is super for use with blind or visually impaired children? If so, write it down in paragraph form (need not be typed but should be signed) and send to: GaleHedgcock, Hints Editor, 2895 State Road, Route 49-PD-2, Blossvale, NY 13308.

BRAILLE READING CONTEST UNDERWAY

The National Federation for the Blind will be holding second annual National Braille Reading Contest for children kindergarten to grade 12. Winners will be selected on basis of number of braille pages read.

Contestants must submit both a braille and print list of materials read. Regular classroom textbooks are not acceptable.

For more details and/or an entry form, contact: The National Federation for the Blind, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, MD 21230, (301) 659-9314.

WHAT THE LAWS SAY

PUBLIC LAW 94-142

A comprehensive law setting forth the fundamental rights necessary to ensure that all handicapped children receive the free, appropriate public education (in the least restrictive and most normal environment possible) to which they are entitled.

SECTION 504

Requires local school districts receiving federal funds of any kind to provide an appropriate education to all handicapped children within their jurisdiction. And presently, nearly every school district in the country receives some kind of federal funds.

HOOKED ON CATALOGS

By Mary Lou Wilkinson

Catalogs are one of those indispensable joys of life. Not only do they pinpoint the answer to the "Where can I find it?" syndrome, they also open avenues to previously unknown items and provide an activity for your "free" time. They are easy to pick up and hard to put down.

With so many unique aids and appliances available for children's needs/interests, it is particularly difficult to "keep up." To help you get started, here is a list of basic catalogs that are yours for the asking. I'm betting that, with just a little use, you too will be "hooked."

Each catalog title is followed by an address where it can be ordered. Each catalog contains ordering information. This is only a partial listing; we welcome additions by our readers.

PRODUCTS FOR PEOPLE WITH VISION PROBLEMS, Consumer Products, American Foundation for the Blind, 13 W. 16th Street, New York, NY 10011.

THE HOWE PRESS SALES CATALOG, The Howe Press of Perkins School for the Blind, 175 N. Beacon Street, Watertown, MA 02172-9982.

THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND CATALOG, American Printing House for the Blind, Inc., 1839 Frankfort Avenue, P.O. Box 6085, Louisville, KY 40206-0085.

VIS-AIDS CATALOG, Vis-Aids, Inc., 8630 102nd Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. A cassette tape for the catalog is available for \$3 each.

PEN PALS

Today, instead of writing, most of us just pick up the phone to stay in touch with friends and family; but letter writing is still a valuable and rewarding skill and corresponding with a pen pal can be an exciting way to make a new friend. Listed below are some sources for finding a pen pal.

An organization called International Pen Friends has established a special division to foster contacts among blind people through cassettes, typed letters and braille. If interested, write: Ms. Michelle Neckonoff, 105-47 Flatlands First Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236.

The Slate-Mate Program has recently been initiated by the National Federation of the Blind Parents and the Albuquerque Public Schools. The purpose is to match blind children who want to correspond in braille. To participate, the child must complete a Profile Form. Participants will receive the name, address and profile form of his/her pen pal. For more information, contact Fred Schroeder, District Diagnostic Center, Albuquerque Public Schools, 2700 Arizona, Albuquerque, NM 87110, (505) 883-9116.

LET'S "WORK" THROUGH SOME THOUGHTS ON PLAY

by Anne Sokolow, from the Newsletter of the International Institute for the Visually Impaired, 0-7, Inc., October, 1979. (With the lazy days of summer approaching, this seems like a timely topic! -Ed.)

The family unit centers around the care of the young, but sometimes, when one of the offspring is handicapped, that child becomes the focal point, robbing other family members of desperately needed attention, thus upsetting the balance in family life. It is therefore crucial that the mother, upon whom the greatest burden lies, receives support, advice and even training in techniques on rearing a handicapped child, in order to maintain as normal a life as possible for the whole family.

It is here that the importance of play and appropriate play materials emerges. Yet it is singularly unfortunate that, in general English usage, "play" denotes the antithesis of work or a trivial, goal-less and therefore meaningless activity. There could be no greater disparity between the trifling implications of the word and the deep significance of the activities it represents. For "play" is as important to a child as food, sleep, warmth and love. It is comparable to an adult's work and leisure combined: a stimulating and challenging learning process in a setting of enjoyment and freedom.

Because virtually anything can be turned into a plaything, whether an imaginary object, a kitchen utensil or a carton, play for the young child encompasses a scope of mental, physical, emotional and social development unrivaled by any later activity. It is essential for mothers to understand that through exploration of and experimentation with various play materials children learn about the world: the different properties of and relations between objects, the rules and structures of their environment and the use of expressive language.

Play materials must therefore be chosen with care to most effectively stimulate the growth of a handicapped child. Four areas are particularly important to consider:

- 1) that the activity can be played both socially (with mother or peers) to encourage communication and sharing; and solitary, to develop independence while freeing mother,
- 2) that the task or skill is within the child's physical and mental abilities while offering possibilities just beyond,
- 3) that the play object should be child-powered, demanding direct contact, control and operation by the child, and
- 4) that the function and construction should be obvious and the inherent rewards immediate and impressive.

Thus, the child should experience in play the joyful excitement of challenge and discovery and the satisfaction of achievement and success. By repeatedly experiencing control, discovering new relationships and expanding knowledge, the child can develop initiative, a feeling of accomplishment and a sense of self.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

This past summer, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation reducing NLS's budget by the amount that it costs to produce PLAYBOY Magazine in braille. To comply with the intent of this legislation, the Library of Congress has ceased publishing the braille PLAYBOY. The cassette version has also been cancelled.

A lawsuit has been filed against the Library of Congress by the American Council of the Blind, the Blind Veterans Association, Playboy Enterprises, the American Library Association and others. The suit charges that this action constitutes censorship and denies blind and handicapped persons access to ideas and viewpoints in a single magazine.

Braille PLAYBOY has been produced as part of the NLS program since 1970. It has consistently been among the most heavily requested braille magazines.

Your views about this legislation or the lawsuit should be directed to your U.S. Congressman and/or any of the lawsuit plaintiffs, which include the American Council of the Blind.

BLIND SKIER WINS MERIT AWARD

Mary Kozy was selected to receive the American Foundation for the Blind's Certificate of Merit, awarded annually to a top blind or visually impaired athlete. Kozy, a prize winning skier and runner, received the award at the 1986 Breakfast of Stars benefit February 6 in Atlanta, GA.

Kozy, a social worker at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, took up cross-country skiing in 1978 and represented the United States in the Ski for Light competition in Norway in 1979. In 1982, she won first place in the five-kilometer and 10-kilometer races in the national competitions held by the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) which qualified her for the 1982 World Ski Championships for the Disabled held in Switzerland.

As a runner, Kozy has won first place the past three years in the five-kilometer race for blind women in the Kaiser Roll, a national race which attracts a field of 6,000 in Bloomington, Minnesota.

Kozy serves on the Board of Directors of Ski for Light and also is an advisor to USABA. Blind since age 18, she graduated with a double degree in sociology/psychology and has her Masters in Social Work. For the past 11 years she has worked at the Rehabilitation Institute in Chicago where she counsels newly disabled people and their families and she provides training on psycho/social adjustment through the Institute's continuing education program. Ms. Kozy also serves on the advisory board of the Chicago Radio Reading Information Service.

NAPVI AWARD NOMINEES SOUGHT

NAPVI's Award for Outstanding Contribution in the field of Blindness will be presented at the National Conference in Arlington, TX this November.

If someone you know deserves this award, you are encouraged to nominate him/her by submitting a letter to the Nomination's Committee, Award for Outstanding Service, NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. The committee will be particularly interested in specific contributions made by the individual e.g. leadership of an individual in school, parent organization; contributions to publications, number of years of service, ingenuity in beginning projects, etc. Please include as many facts as possible about this individual in your letter to substantiate your nomination. Deadline date is August 1.

"It is unwise to pay too much, but worse to pay too little. When you pay too much, you lose a little money. That is all. But when you pay too little, you sometimes lose all, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the thing it was bought to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying little and getting a lot. It can't be done. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it is well to add something for the risk you run. And if you do that you will have enough to pay for something better."

—John Ruskin

WHAT "PARENT POWER" IS ALL ABOUT

The American Foundation for the Blind recently held a national preschool forum entitled "Critical Issues in Infant and Preschool Education of Blind and Visually Impaired Children" in Arlington, VA. Many distinguished persons in the field of blindness participated; however, it should be noted that there were parent participants also.

Parent participants included Emma Ramirez Bell (Arlington, TX) and Pamela Sullivan (Oakton, VA) who served as panelists on the "Quality of Life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit" and Judith Stotland (North Hollywood, CA) who served as moderator for "Parent Empowerment." Mrs. Stotland is NAPVI secretary.

Have you noticed the increase in the frequency of occasions that parents are asked to participate in forums, state committees for the handicapped, workshops for professionals, etc.? Could it be that our input IS valuable?

Let us know if you, a parent, participate in any such activity on a state or national basis. If there is enough feedback, we'll consider a column on Parent Power.

Every child comes with a message
that God is not yet discouraged of man.

—Tagore

TRIVIA WORTH NOTING

The 1985 Investment Report of the Children's Defense Fund shows that investments in children do pay. Note the following:

- \$1.00 invested in preschool education...saves \$3.00 in later costs for special education and health care.
- \$9.00 invested each week in proper food for a poor baby...saves \$1,400 per week in hospital costs for treating malnutrition.
- \$10.00 invested to immunize a baby...saves up to \$1,000,000 in the cost of institutional care for a child left retarded by a case of the measles.

Go as far as you can see.
When you get there,
you will be able to see further.

—Anonymous

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The Peace Corps is seeking blind volunteers with business training or who can teach rehabilitation skills. Volunteers should have at least an associate degree or good vocational experience. Blind or visually impaired candidates are eligible. One of the Peace Corps mottos is "The hardest job you will ever love!" Contact Bob Jackson, Office of Recruitment, Peace Corps, 806 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Room M-807, Washington, D.C. 20506.

APVI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dear NAPVI President:

Please send my membership for the 198____ year.
(Expires December 31)

Check One:

☒ Parents and Families — \$5.00

Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

I wish to be a member of the following affiliate: _____

- ☐ Community Groups & Agencies: \$15.00
☐ Associate: \$3.00
☐ Supporting: \$50-\$200
☐ Sponsoring: \$200-\$1,000
☐ Patron: Over \$1,000

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____

This is a: ☐ new membership ☐ renewal

SIGNATURE _____

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM:

I wish to pre-register for the NAPVI National Conference scheduled for Nov. 5-8, 1986.
Enclosed is my check (money order) payable to NAPVI for _____ persons as indicated below.

Members
 Parents* (single) \$100 _____
 Parents* (couple) \$150 _____
 Other (single) \$150 _____
 Other (couple) \$250 _____

Non-Members
 Parents (single) \$125 _____
 Parents (couple) \$200 _____
 Other (single) \$175 _____
 Other (couple) \$300 _____

Total Fees \$ _____ Pre-registration Discount (\$10/person) \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please send confirmation of my registration to:

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Signature: _____

RETURN THIS CARD TO NAPVI CONFERENCE, C/O Henry Hedgecock, Treasurer, 2895 State Rd. Route 49-PD-2, Blossvale, NY 13308.

An Administration fee of \$25 will be deducted from all refunds.

No refunds will be made after November 1, 1986.

CHECK
ACCOMMODATIONS
REQUIRED

SINGLES \$60.00 + TAX
 DOUBLE/DOUBLE
 KING SIZE BED

DOUBLES \$60.00 + TAX
 DOUBLE/DOUBLE
 KING SIZE BED

LUXURY KING
 CELESTINE KING

CHECK IN TIME — 3 P.M.
 CHECK OUT TIME — NOON



**Sheraton (817) 261-8200
CentrePark Hotel Arlington**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

- ☐ I will arrive before 6:00 P.M.
☐ I would like to guarantee my reservations

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE HELD UNTIL 6:00 P.M.
UNLESS OTHERWISE GUARANTEED

GUARANTEED PER _____
(Bank Card, Deposit, Etc.)

NAME OF CONVENTION OR GROUP _____ NAPVI

GROUP CUT-OFF DATE _____ OCTOBER, 15, 1986



CATCHING UP ON READINGS

LIFEPRINTS, a magazine published by Carol M. McCarl and her husband, Bob McCarl, is written by visually impaired adults and youths whose careers and life skills are showcased in an effort to assist visually impaired students in daily pursuits. The AFB Transition Project Staff describes **LIFEPRINTS** as "a unique and valuable resource for blind and visually impaired teenagers and persons concerned about their futures. It provides information and perspectives from adults who are successful in their varied work places and at their leisure. In addition to information through first-person interviews, these adults who are blind or visually impaired give their names and addresses for future contacts. We encourage you to consider subscribing to **LIFEPRINTS**. The section which fills most pages is "Careers." Individuals personally describe their training, job duties and any adaptive equipment they may use getting to work or on the job." **LIFEPRINTS** is available in three media: large print, braille and cassette for \$15 a year (five issues) or \$3 for a single ample copy. Send your check (be sure to stipulate media desired) to Blindskills, Inc., Box 5181, Salem, OR 97304.

HEART TO HEART: Parents of Blind and Partially Sighted Children Talk About Their Feelings is a booklet published by the Blind Children's Center. **HEART TO HEART** is a description of many feelings which parents have experienced. This booklet is meant to help other parents who are just beginning to confront the challenges of raising a visually impaired child. (Available in Spanish also.) This booklet is available from the Blind Children's Center, 4120 Marathon Street, P.O. Box 29159, Los Angeles, CA 90029, (213) 664-2154. (Ed. Note: Dr. Wayne Chapman recently read this booklet with a group of support parents in Arkansas as a basis for communication with parents as well as feelings; a good resource for parent groups to have on hand for those new members!)

THE SIBLING INFORMATION NETWORK publishes a quarterly newsletter filled with good resource material. The network also has these resources available to members: a bibliography of journal articles on siblings, a bibliography of children's literature, a list of media on siblings, a complete, up-to-date list of all members, a list of people who have organized sibling groups and a collection of articles from the newsletter on sibling workshops and programs. Subscription rates are \$5 for an individual or \$8 for an organization. Contact: **SIBLING INFORMATION NETWORK**, Dept. of Educational Psychology, Box U-64, School of Education, 249 Glenbrook Road, The University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

EXPECTATIONS is a braille anthology of current children's literature published annually since 1948 by the Braille Institute Press. It is available free of charge to all English-speaking blind children in grades 3-6. The 1985 anthology includes a folk tale, a fairy tale, stories about animals, stories about families, several poems and a page of microfragrance scents. Schools and other organizations may request the volume by writing on agency letterhead. Requests for in-

dividual blind children may be made by parents, grandparents or teachers. Write to Jody Avery, Braille Institute, 741 N. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90029.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS—A VERY FINE HISTORY

(Ed. Note: Many of us had the honor, although at the time I did not realize how big the honor was, to meet Jacqueline Merritt of Dubuque, IA, the founder of VSA, at the Transition Institute in New Orleans when Ms. Merritt visited with us at the NAPVI get-together for parents. She and her husband, Dr. Benjamin Merritt, are longtime NAPVI members.)

"In the arts, there is only ability. There is no disability."

That is the motto of more than a half-million Americans with mental and physical disabilities who today are dreaming—and achieving—through every art form, thanks to landmark programs established by Very Special Arts (VSA).

Since its founding in 1974, VSA has helped bring children, youth and adults with disabilities to a special new hope by creating and promoting year-round opportunities which not only improve learning skills but develop artistic responsiveness in children, youth and adults who previously may not have received arts training and experience within their education. VSA also gives them faith in themselves and helps them become active participants in the mainstream of society.

The Very Special Arts program has grown from a single event in 1974 to more than 450 Festivals today—serving over 600,000 people in every state of the union, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In May of 1984, VSA established an international organization—formalizing its ties with affiliated groups in more than 35 countries around the world.

Of particular interest to parents of blind and visually impaired children might be such projects as the Visually Impaired Project (V.I.P.) which started with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York. This project introduces students who are blind or visually impaired to the world of dance. The program was field tested in 1985 with the Des Moines Ballet and the Kansas City Ballet and will be replicated this year in 10 states.

There are unlimited projects, more than can be included in this article; however, others include the Artists Unlimited Project, Henry Fonda Young Playwrights Project, the Itzhak Perlman Award (an annual performing arts award for up to \$5,000 to an outstanding artist under 21 with a disability) and the Pen Project Award for creative writing.

For more information, contact Very Special Arts Education Office, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. 20566 or phone Voice (202) 332-6960; TTY (202) 293-3989. VSA is a non-profit organization.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Life is a mirror;
if you frown at it, it frowns back;
if you smile, it returns the greeting.

—Thackeray

A PRACTICAL LETTER TO PARENTS ABOUT REACHING INDEPENDENCE

(The source for this article is unknown. If you did it, let us know as we would like to give you credit. We felt this article was important because it shows parents the possibilities of their child leading a normal life.—Ed.)

Dear Parents,

It is important to realize that:

- 1) Every child is an individual with different abilities and interests.
- 2) A positive self-concept helps an individual function successfully in work and daily living.
- 3) A person's work may contribute to a positive self-concept.
- 4) Individuals may be suited for several different careers.
- 5) Children learn about actual job duties and functions through experience.
- 6) The way a child uses leisure time can contribute to career choices.
- 7) The ability to get along with people is an important part of success in work and daily living.
- 8) All persons need to be recognized as having dignity and worth.

Many of the following skills or concepts are essential for a person with severe visual impairment to master in order to achieve maximum independence in life. It is important for you, as parents, to have a realistic idea of when and how your child will be able to learn these skills successfully. If a child is not expected to help with household chores (such as set the table, do the dishes and empty the trash), he may never gain the true understanding of work. If the child always has things done for him or her, he may develop unrealistic notions that independent living and jobs are easier than they really are. He needs an idea of what is involved beforehand, i.e. preparation and what is involved afterwards, i.e. financial management.

Below is a list of skills. After reading each skill indicate if your child has already mastered this skill or at what age do you expect your child to have this skill. Who will be responsible primarily for teaching your child the skill? If you feel that your child will not be able to perform one of these tasks, mark it N.A. (not applicable).

| | ALREADY MASTERED | AGE EXPECT TO MASTER | WHO WILL TEACH SKILL? | | ALREADY MASTERED | AGE EXPECT TO MASTER | WHO WILL TEACH SKILL? |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Able to bathe or shower independently | _____ | _____ | _____ | 38. Able to clean the toilet | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Able to brush teeth | _____ | _____ | _____ | 39. Able to sort clothes for washing | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Able to care for nails | _____ | _____ | _____ | 40. Able to operate a washer | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Able to select appropriate clothing to wear | _____ | _____ | _____ | 41. Able to operate a dryer | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Able to complete all areas of dressing independently | _____ | _____ | _____ | 42. Able to hang clothes on the line | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Able to wash and care for hair | _____ | _____ | _____ | 43. Able to change a light bulb | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Able to prepare snacks | _____ | _____ | _____ | 44. Able to hammer a nail | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Able to spread butter, peanut butter or jelly | _____ | _____ | _____ | 45. Able to use a typewriter for personal correspondence and needs | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Able to peel fruit | _____ | _____ | _____ | 46. Able to dial a telephone and knows emergency numbers | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Able to boil water for coffee or hot chocolate | _____ | _____ | _____ | 47. Able to take telephone messages accurately | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 11. Able to open a soft drink can | _____ | _____ | _____ | 48. Able to receive and manage an allowance | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 12. Able to open a soft drink bottle | _____ | _____ | _____ | 49. Able to understand the value of different coins | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 13. Able to crack an egg | _____ | _____ | _____ | 50. Able to make small purchases independently and to know if the change is correct | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 14. Able to identify most kitchen equipment | _____ | _____ | _____ | 51. Able to tell time | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 15. Able to follow verbal recipes | _____ | _____ | _____ | 52. Able to put batteries in a flashlight or tape recorder | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 16. Able to wash dishes | _____ | _____ | _____ | 53. Able to play board games such as Monopoly in print or braille | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 17. Able to use a timer | _____ | _____ | _____ | 54. Able to play card games (print or braille) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 18. Able to dry dishes | _____ | _____ | _____ | 55. Able to color or paint pictures | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 19. Able to load and unload dishwasher | _____ | _____ | _____ | 56. Able to participate in sports with peers (modified when appropriate) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 20. Able to use stove | _____ | _____ | _____ | 57. Able to seat self at table | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| a. able to place pots on burners | _____ | _____ | _____ | 58. Able to serve self at table | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| b. able to place items in oven | _____ | _____ | _____ | 59. Able to use knife independently to cut meat | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| c. able to set stove appropriately | _____ | _____ | _____ | 60. Able to apply salt and pepper | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 21. Able to heat soup or TV dinners | _____ | _____ | _____ | 61. Able to write own signature | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 22. Able to use toaster | _____ | _____ | _____ | 62. Able to use checks when making purchases | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 23. Able to use electric frying pan | _____ | _____ | _____ | 63. Able to handle basic banking details such as depositing money in a savings account | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 24. Able to fit a plug into an electric socket | _____ | _____ | _____ | 64. Understands directions right and left | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 25. Able to safely pour cold liquids into a cup | _____ | _____ | _____ | 65. Understands cardinal directions (north, east, south and west) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 26. Able to safely pour hot liquids into a cup | _____ | _____ | _____ | 66. Able to move around neighborhood independently | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 27. Able to use measuring cups and spoons appropriately | _____ | _____ | _____ | 67. Able to safely cross the street independently | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 28. Able to use knife to peel or cut vegetables | _____ | _____ | _____ | 68. Able to use public transportation independently | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 29. Able to use various types of can openers | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 30. Able to set the table | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 31. Able to empty the trash | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 32. Able to dust and polish furniture | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 33. Able to make a bed independently | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 34. Able to vacuum | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 35. Able to sweep an uncarpeted area | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 36. Able to mop a floor | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |
| 37. Able to clean a sink or tub | _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |

MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI

NAPVI provides its members with support, program information and assistance in improving services, and organizing parent groups. The different categories of membership are:

PARENTS AND FAMILIES (voting members, one vote per membership).

With this membership you receive our quarterly newsletter, legislative alerts, information sharing opportunities, referral to needed services, reduced publication rates, contact with other parents and families and a collective voice. **DUES: \$5.00/year**

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND AGENCIES. Federal, State and Local (non-voting membership).

This membership will receive our quarterly newsletter and related information. **DUES: \$15.00/year**

ASSOCIATE (non-voting member)

This membership category is for individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI. **DUES: \$3.00/year**

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to regular memberships there are contributing memberships available. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service information and assistance to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

SUPPORTING. \$50-200
SPONSORING \$200-1,000
PATRON. over \$1,000

Contributing members will receive recognition for their tax deductible donation to NAPVI.

You can also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents by spreading word of its existence to people who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments, and by letting us know what your needs are.

To join NAPVI or renew your membership for 1985, complete the following application, cut on the dotted line and return with your check to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

The type of membership I am applying for is:

- ☐ Parents and Families (\$5.00/year)
☐ Parent groups, community groups or agencies (\$15.00/year)
☐ Associate (non-voting; \$3.00/year)

This is a renewal (check one): ☐ Yes ☐ No

SECOND QUARTER - 1986

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. () _____

Signature _____

To order the following publications, complete the following order form, cut on the dotted line and return, with your check to:

NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

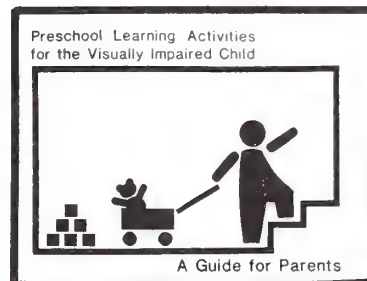
- ☐ TAKE CHARGE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$5.50)
☐ HOW TO PACK 'EM IN: A GUIDE FOR PARENT WORKSHOPS (\$3.00)
☐ A GUIDE TO LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$9.50)
☐ PARENTS TO THE RESCUE (\$2.00)
☐ YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL (\$5.00)
☐ PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES (\$7.00)

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order for _____

Name and mailing address: _____

Signature _____

PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES for the Visually Impaired Child - A Guide for Parents



This book is all about preschoolers and parents having fun together. The fact that the child *learns* along with it is an added bonus! Produced several years ago by the Illinois Department of Education, **PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILD** is being made available once again to parents by NAPVI. In a bound 91-page, illustrated volume, the book focuses on activities and games to help children learn about themselves - and others.

"The key word to helping blind children learn is "active." The games and activities in this book will help parents keep their visually impaired child active during those formative preschool years . . . and parents should enjoy doing many of the familiar games described in PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES.

— Lee W. Robinson, NAPVI Executive Director



- support
- information
- service

P.O. BOX 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label now gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after November 1, 1985 becoming 1986 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming — check the bottom line!



A GIFT FOR MOM

by Mary Lou Wilkinson

Mom already has the most precious gift of all or she wouldn't qualify for the title of Mom. But when she's the mother of a handicapped child, there is another gift which she needs more than most moms of a "normal" child — TIME.

Did you ever stop to think how much time it takes to show your blind child what is in the kitchen cupboard (A mere opening of the doors won't do it!); how much TIME it takes to teach your visually impaired child to learn to dress himself (Oh, those shoestrings!); how much TIME it takes to bake a cake with his/her help (But, what a great opportunity to use all those measuring cups, spoons and what better reason to crack an egg, stir, etc!); how much TIME it takes to get ready for school to open (IEPs, special equipment to assemble, meetings with the teacher, etc.); how much TIME it takes to "see" what is in the supermarket (but what better way to learn about fruits, vegetables, meats, how they are packaged, etc.) and so on and on and on and on.

A mother of a handicapped child is just like Moms of all

other kids in most ways. She may have a husband to share, siblings of the blind child (each with his/her individual needs to be met), an outside job, household chores (and their own limits to energy and frustrations coupled with their own limitless love for her family. It is difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish all she feels she needs to do in the amount of TIME allotted for a day, week, month or year. So she finds herself playing a game called "Priorities."

Priorities are set by values. What is the most important thing that must be done today? What can't wait until tomorrow? At one stage of my life I thought that nothing could wait until tomorrow and everything was attacked daily. If tomorrow was a figment of imagination that would never show up. Now I find myself asking, "Really, is it going to matter in eternity?" Probably neither attitude produces a winner of "Priorities," but it does make one stop and think what is more important for now and the future. Should I stop myself to save TIME, get it over with and go on to something else or is it worth the extra TIME it takes to teach my blind child so he can take one more step towards independence?

Every year, when it gets close to Mother's Day, I think about TIME because it is one of the most precious and elusive gifts. Whenever I have been asked, "What do you want for Mother's Day?", the same answer has always run through my head — TIME. And it doesn't have to be for my use. The gift that we all have probably appreciated most has been TIME that a caring relative or friend has devoted to and for our children, but especially to our handicapped child, in teaching or exposing him or her to new experiences.

As usual, this article didn't get written in TIME for Mother's Day. Why? Not enough TIME, of course!

A NATIONAL MEETING FOR PARENTS

CONFERENCE EDITION

1986

AWARENESS



LOOKING TOWARD THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

NAPVI began with a little group of 20 parents from around the United States, all gathered in a conference room in St. Louis, Missouri in 1979, talking excitedly about the possibility of starting a national parent organization. From that initial effort, NAPVI has incorporated, struggled and worked to achieve its present status.

To date, 21 individuals have served on the NAPVI Board in one capacity or another, traveling to local parent meetings, writing letters, putting out the quarterly newsletter and just plain keeping track of the millions of details that go into keeping a national organization on course. The NAPVI Board meets once each year, with the Executive Board meeting six months later to prepare for the next meeting. After each meeting Board members have said they return to their homes encouraged, buoyed up and eager to do their assignments!

Now, through their efforts and hard work, they are making it possible for the membership to experience this same enthusiasm and to benefit from this same camaraderie.

The present Board includes as officers Elaine Moses, Austin, TX, president; Eileen Hudson, Beloit, WI, vice president; Judith Stotland, North Hollywood, CA, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, Blossvale, New York, Treasurer. Board members are Diana Cuthbertson, Boston, MA; Norma Lucas, Girard, OH; Joan (pronounced "Jo-Ann") Johnson, Springfield, MO; Tom Auletta, Keystone Heights, FL; Jeanie Flack, Harbor City, CA; Kate Aldrich, Santa Ana, CA and Gail Granados, Norwich, CT. Jacqueline Carroll, NY, is immediate past president and Dr. Lee W. Robinson is executive director of NAPVI.

Former Board members are Gale Hedgecock, Blossvale, NY; Liz Hartman, Austin, TX; Laura Vidal, Queens, NY; Fay Corey, Pittsburgh, PA and Mary Lou Wilkinson, Forrest City, AR. Mrs. Vidal and Mrs. Wilkinson have also both served as editors of AWARENESS. Linda Katskee of Omaha, NE, was NAPVI's first national secretary.

All of these individuals are thrilled that the "vision" that carried them through those early difficult years of organization is going to be focused on NAPVI's first national parent meeting next November.

ALL EYES ON ARLINGTON! NAPVI'S HAVING A PARTY!

(we're trying not to say "y'all come!" but do!)

The 150-year-old State of Texas is celebrating Sesquicentennial this year, so it's only fitting that NAPVI has its birthday party for six formative years of growth in Arlington, Texas, located between Dallas and Ft. Worth, this year, too.

This first National Parent Conference promises to bring together parents from every state in the Union (and hopefully some parents from other countries as well) for three days of visiting and learning November 5-8 at the Arlington Convention Center.

"This will be a tremendous opportunity for parents to meet other parents of visually impaired children, as well as teachers and other professionals interested in the well-being of visually impaired children," said NAPVI President Elaine Moses, in announcing the Conference.

Planned around the theme "Ourselves, Our Children, Our Friends," the agenda (published in tentative form on Pages B and C) features numerous panel discussions, cracker barrel sessions and presentations given by a diverse range of parents and professionals from throughout the country.

There will be a Friday evening banquet, with the presentation of NAPVI's Outstanding Contribution Award a highlight. Previous recipients have been Josephine Taylor, Katherine Maxfield, Dr. Berthold Lowenfeld and Pauline M. Moor. In addition, a luncheon will be served Thursday and the Friday and Saturday daytime sessions include a "box lunch" arrangement for participants.

Along with the conference, parents will have a rare opportunity to see first-hand many of the aids, appliances, and devices available to the visually impaired at the Trade Show Wednesday evening, Thursday from noon to 9 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A Margarita Hour, billed as the "Look 'E See" Round-Up, will be held at 4:45 p.m. Thursday, so that conference participants will have a chance to meet company representatives.

NAPVI Board Member Joan Johnson of Missouri is also planning a media event for Thursday evening, where participants will be able to see the latest and best films about visual impairment.

Following the Conference, tours will be available for those staying over in the area. One will be a Saturday evening fling at Billy Bob's/Ft. Worth Stock Yards and Sunday tours will include either a shopping trip through Dallas or a sightseeing tour which swings through many historic Dallas neighborhoods.

FUND-RAISING: WEIGHING THE OPTIONS

by Keitha Robinson

"The darkest hour in any man's life is when he sits down to plan how to get money without earning it," Horace Greeley wrote...and most of us believe strongly in this work-oriented ethic. We have been raised to work hard in order to provide the necessities of life for our families—"creative fund raising" is rarely part of our vocabulary.

But once in a while some event comes along that we would really love to attend—perhaps a concert or a distant meeting. In our minds we range swiftly over the milk budget and the loan obligations and realize that there's just no way we can participate.

In just this way many parents throughout the country have read about the NAPVI Conference, scanned the budgets and have decided they will never make Arlington, Texas in November of 1986. Without some outside help, there's just no way.

NAPVI President Elaine Moses has urged parents to go to civic groups in their communities to ask for funds to attend this first-ever national parent conference. And yet, like Greeley, we somehow think it's "dark" or demeaning to ask for funds for ourselves—for travel and a vacation, for goodness sake!

As parents, we don't realize that attending a three-day conference is not a relaxing vacation. Ask any doctor, teacher or other professional who regularly attends such conferences. They will describe to you the long hours sitting in sessions, visiting with colleagues, hurrying out for a meal only to reconvene in an hour's time, of stop-and-go travel to and from the convention city. We're not talking about a trip to Disneyland, then.

What we are talking about is the tremendous benefit your attendance is going to be to your community. We fully believe that those who attend this conference are going to return to their homes with added determination to reach out in support to other parents of visually impaired children. We believe that this conference is going to "ripple out" to many parents because of the enthusiasm of those who are able to attend. That is NAPVI's full purpose in having this Convention.

As a parent, you may be hesitant about asking anybody for money, even if it is a "group" of professional or civic leaders. If so, find a professional (your child's teacher or principal) who will submit your proposal to attend the conference to that group.

NAPVI Executive Director Lee Robinson has been spending many hours on the phone talking with agency officials throughout the nation, urging them to "sponsor" a parent to come to the convention. "A teacher or a principal can put a word in the right ear to a member of a local group and these funds can be made available, especially when everyone is made to realize what a tremendous boost it's going to be to the parents of visually impaired children in that particular community to have a representative at this conference," he said.

A SAMPLE PROPOSAL

So now that you've decided to either approach a local group yourself or have asked a professional to take your cause that group, what needs to be in your "proposal?" (The following responses are examples only, not meant to be followed rigidly.)

1. A Summary Statement: "I am asking your financial assistance in providing travel and convention funding necessary so that I may attend NAPVI's First National Parent Conference in Arlington, TX, November 5-8, 1986.

2. A statement of the questions to be addressed: Why is it beneficial for me to attend this meeting? How much will it cost? How much can I come up with on my own?

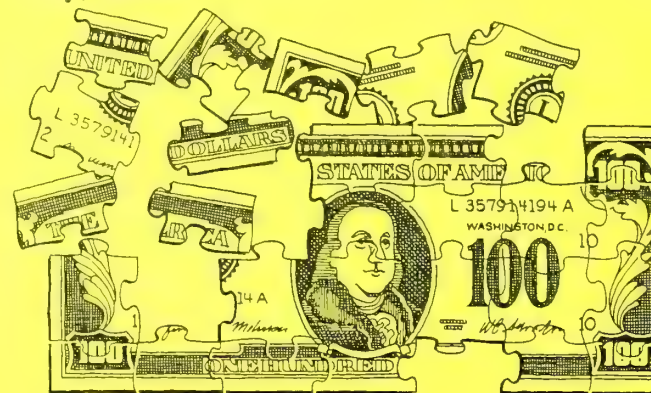
3. A statement of your goals in attending the conference: "By my attendance at this conference, I hope to gain valuable information in order to enrich my relationship with my visually impaired child and to find ways to help other parents of visually impaired children in my community."

4. Procedures of the Conference: "The NAPVI Conference will last three days. Sessions on the first day will be geared to coping skills of parents; second-day sessions will revolve around educational and medical know-how in parenting visually impaired children and sessions the third day will focus on national agencies and service resources."

5. An evaluative assessment: "I will be collecting conference materials and taking notes during the sessions. I would be pleased to speak to your group following the Conference with a description of that meeting and to share information about visually impaired children in general. I also hope to gather other parents in the community following the convention so that I can share many things I learned at the Conference."

6. A detailed budget: "My plane ticket via Delta Airlines will cost _____. Registration for the Convention will be \$90, as I plan to pre-register prior to October 1. My hotel bill will be \$60 per night. Taxi fare from the airport (round trip) will be \$12. (An estimated cost form drawn up by NAPVI President Elaine Moses and Program Committee member Diana Cuthbertson is included on this page and may be helpful as you submit your proposal.)

One final note: your proposal should have a neat appearance. If you are going to submit it handwritten, make sure you've printed legibly. You're dealing with business and professional persons and you are asking for a portion of their money, after all.



ESTIMATED NEEDS

Following is a list of anticipated expenses for the First National Parent Conference of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI), to be held November 5-8, 1986 in Arlington, Texas, mid-point between Dallas and Ft. Worth.

Plane Fare to TX from _____

Taxi Fare from D/FW-Arlington-D/FW
(\$12 round trip via TBS) _____

Room (Double/single Occupancy)
3 nights at \$60 _____

Registration
(Parent, \$100; Professional \$150)
(Fee includes four meals) _____

Additional Food Costs _____

Other: (Specify gas costs, if driving) _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____



TO NAME BUT A FEW...

Here is a "sampler" of groups that might be approached in your creative fund raising efforts:

Senior citizen groups, Elks; Lions, Soroptimists, Masons, International Order of Odd Fellows, active 20-30 clubs, Knights of Columbus, Jacyees, YM-YWCA, Rotary, Kiwanis, area women's clubs, Optimists, Altrusa, Telephone Pioneers; PTA, teachers' organizations, Grange, Farm Bureau, Farmer's Union, business associations, employee's associations, Chamber of Commerce, Medical Society, Dental Society, Business and Professional Women, church groups, Urban League, NAACP, college/university alumni groups.

AMERICAN INGENUITY PUTS PENNIES IN THE TILL

We know of several groups around the country who are already hard at work having bake sales and brainstorming on other ways to help send some of their parent members to the conference. To make those coffers swell, you might try one or more of the following "moneymakers:"

Audience Participation Events: decorator's showcase; garden walk; craft and hobby shows; fairs and festivals, card parties and bingo; house tours; marathons.

Merchandise Events: auctions, raffles, flea markets, and sales of plants, antiques, books and other products.

Food and Drink Events: big dinners, fashion show, cocktail parties, picnic, coffees and teas, potluck supper.

Professional Entertainment Events: plays and musicals, movie premieres, celebrity lectures.

Athletic Events: celebrity participations, concessions at semi-pro contests, tournaments.

Service Events: car wash, babysitting at shopping malls, handicraft sales, house painting, summer employment service, pillow cleaning service, fertilizer delivery.

Do-It-Yourself Training Events: microwave cooking, home entertainment ideas, outdoor gardening, how to use cosmetics, identifying genuine antiques, bagel making, flower arrangements, self-defense courses.

Potpourri: product sales, running your own business, salvage, door-to-door distribution, direct mail solicitation, trading stamp donations.

Each of the events listed above can be profitable to organizations of any size. Many of them take manpower and some money. Remember, however, that donations can also be obtained for these, too. Don't hesitate to solicit help from other organizations to make your fund raising event a success.

When considering any fund raising event, be sure you know the local laws and taxes which apply to such events and comply totally. Use and sale of alcoholic beverages is usually prohibited at public events. Special permits may be required, sales tax may be required, etc. Check with the local authorities to make sure that you are operating within the law.

"Some people have a less keen sense of their duty and responsibility than others. With them a little urging may be helpful. But with most people a convincing presentation of the facts and the need is far more effective. When a solicitor comes to you and lays on your heart the responsibility that rests so heavily on his; when his earnestness gives convincing evidence of how seriously interested he is; when he makes it clear that he knows you are no less anxious to do your duty in the matter than he is, that you are just as conscientious, that he feels sure all you need is to realize the importance of the enterprise and the urgency of the need in order to lead you to do your full share in meeting it—he has made you his friend and has brought you to think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege."—John D. Rockefeller.

Mmmmmmm! AN ALPHABET SOUP CONTEST IS BREWING!

ac-ro-nym (ak' ra nim) n. a word formed from the first (or first few) letters of a series of words, as *radar*, from radio detecting and ranging.

—*Webster's New World Dictionary*, p.7

NAPVI Secretary Judith Stotland is busy gathering up as many of these acronyms as possible to use in an Alphabet Soup Contest during the first day of the Convention. A tasty prize will be awarded to that participant decoding as many of these initialized tongue-tanglers as possible.

To sharpen your skills for this endeavor, why not sit down and decode all the initialed letters you know, beginning with ARD (Admission, Review and Dismissal) and ending with...oh, dear, what are some acronyms that begin with "Z?"

The contest will be run by NAPVI Secretary Judi Stotland, a parent from California, who has been involved with P.L. 94-142 and parent support issues in her state and nationally for many years, thereby gaining a wealth of experience... ACRONYMICALLY?

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WRITE: NAPVI
PO BOX 180806
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78718

OR CALL: (512) 459-6651

THERE'S MORE TO DECEMBER THAN ICE AND SNOW!

We're not promising that the South is always sunny, but here's a chance for two of our readers to go see! This issue of AWARENESS newsletter contains a sheet of ten tickets—two of our readers will be given the keys to a Myrtle Beach South Carolina condominium to use for two separate weeks in December, 1986.

The use of the condo was donated by NAPVI member Henry and Gale Hedgecock of New York who, as longtime South Carolina residents, grew to love that section of beach land. The ticket does not include transportation to Myrtle Beach.

To enter, simply fill in the stub of your ticket with your name and address and send it with \$1 to NAPVI. Funds earned by the raffle will be used for "scholarships" and other Board-designated purposes. The contest is void where prohibited by law. Two winners will be drawn at the NAPVI National Parent Conference in November. You need not be present to win. The two individuals who win will be notified by registered letter or telephone. You may enter as many times as you like (someone has to win, right?) and the drawing is not limited to NAPVI members.

WRITE ON! ANNOUNCING AN ESSAY CONTEST IN CONJUNCTION WITH NAPVI'S FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Title: "Why Belong to A Parent Group?"

Prizes: A \$100 savings bond in each of the following three categories: Parent, Professional, Child (Age 18 or under). Prizes will be awarded at the NAPVI Conference for Parents and Professionals in Arlington, TX November 5-8, 1986. (Winners need not be present!)

Rules: Suggested length, approximately 500 words, in type, braille or handwritten form. All entries must be signed.
All essays become the property of NAPVI; No essay will be returned to the author. NAPVI reserves the right to read any/all essays at the National Conference and/or to print any/all essays in the newsletter, brochures, etc.
No NAPVI board member, present or past, is eligible.

Deadline: Must be postmarked NO LATER than September 1, 1986.

Submit to: Ms. Kate Aldrich, 409 E. 22nd Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

Judges: Ms. Alrich, Gabriele Hass of the Blind Children's Learning Center, Orange County, CA and Nancy Chapman of Lancaster, PA, the parent of a 3½-year-old multihandicapped visually impaired child.



1-800-2250-227

hear and tone 994610

AWARENESS

1986

THIRD QUARTER

Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor

COST CUTTING YOUR WAY TO THE NAPVI CONVENTION

NAPVI's November 5-8 Conference is a first-ever opportunity to learn a tremendous amount about a very critical subject—parenting visually impaired children.

The NAPVI Board has reached out across the length of the U.S. to gather in the best speakers, individuals noted for their lifelong service to the betterment of the lives of the visually impaired.

Straining its resources to the maximum, NAPVI has planned and replanned a program of benefit to you. The opportunity is yours.

Even opportunities can cost money, so we've figured out some ways for you to save money, but still come to the convention.

ON REGISTRATION FEES

NAPVI Executive Director Lee Robinson said, "We know the registration fee may seem high to some; however, it includes four meals (a banquet, a luncheon and two additional box lunches). This is much more food than most organizations provide for their conference participants. We did this so that we could keep food costs low by negotiating ourselves."

Also included will be a free margarita party Thursday (billed as the Look 'E See Round-Up) and a special birthday party for NAPVI Wednesday evening.

Other registration benefits include a Conference Resource Book, which will be a keepsake for many years to come. In addition to the conference agenda, it will contain a listing of companies providing services to the visually impaired, a history of NAPVI and a special listing of "jewels," visually impaired children across America. (See page 12 for sign-up form.)

You can save 10 percent by pre-registering (before November 1). A single parent pre-registration for a NAPVI member is \$90; it is \$130 for a couple. Following November 1, registration will be \$100 for a single parent and \$150 for a couple.

You definitely will save money by becoming a member of NAPVI, as the non-member registration fee for a single parent is \$125 and for a couple is \$200. (A NAPVI membership form is included in this newsletter.)

A chart listing the breakdowns of the various groups follows.

| | Conference Fees At The Door | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | Member | NonMember |
| Parent (single) | \$100 | \$125 |
| Parents (couple) | \$150 | \$200 |
| Other (single) | \$150 | \$175 |
| Other (couple) | \$250 | \$300 |

| | Conference Fees Paid In Advance | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | Member | NonMember |
| Parent (single) | \$ 90 | \$115 |
| Parent (couple) | \$130 | \$180 |
| Other (single) | \$130 | \$155 |
| Other (couple) | \$230 | \$280 |

CONSIDER A ROOMIE

Another major way to save money during the convention is to share a room with someone, if you are not coming with a spouse. NAPVI's motel rate is \$60 per night, single or double occupancy. Children may stay in a room free with parents (remember, NAPVI will not be able to provide child care during the Convention). If you'd like a roommate, please fill out the form below and we'll do our best to find you one.

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ Date of Arrival _____
 Male _____ Female _____ Date of Departure _____
 Smoking _____ Non-Smoking _____ Motel Reservations Already
 Made: Yes _____ No _____

TRAVEL PLANS

If you are planning to fly, now is the time to contact an airline. Delta is NAPVI's air carrier, offering a 40 percent discount on coach fares to those mentioning NAPVI's file number, E-0224. Deadline for that is September 20; it will be 35% thereafter. If you haven't done much flying, it may be wise for you to talk over your plans with a travel agent in your community (or contact Globe Travel, Dallas). Usually, her consultation time with you is free and she is much more aware of the best fares going. Also, keep in mind that you usually save money by staying over a Saturday night. The Program Committee has arranged a Saturday night tour of the Ft. Worth Stockyards and Billy Bob's and also two Sunday tours of nearby Dallas for those remaining.

When you arrive at DFW Airport, a special TBS van marked "NAPVI" will be available for your 15-minute ride to Arlington. Cost will be \$7 one way. If you don't find the van on the concourse, call this number: 267-5150.

CARPOOLING

If you live close enough to Arlington to drive in, the current low price of gasoline should be a major plus in your favor. If you are driving in from another state and would like to carpool and share expenses, contact the NAPVI office at 1-800-225-0227-994610 (U.S.) and 1-800-222-1537-994610 (in Texas).

For those meals not covered in your registration fee, you'll find approximately 72 restaurants and fast food eateries within a mile and a half of the convention site.

If you can only attend one day of the conference, single-day registration is \$50 per day. Banquet tickets must be purchased before November 1, so contact the NAPVI office.

Dress for the convention will be casual, so you won't need to worry about an extensive wardrobe. Temperatures in November in Texas are typically mild; however, you'll want to bring a sweater and an umbrella as nothing changes quicker than the weather in the Lone Star State.

THE AGENDA

TENTATIVE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1986 "OURSELVES"

(EXHIBITS OPEN—NOON TO 9 P.M.)

9:00-10:45 a.m. GENERAL SESSION

Welcome, Eileen Hudson, Conference Program
Chairman

Welcome, Arlington City Official

Welcome, Elaine Moses, NAPVI President

"NAPVI: An Overview"—Dr. Susan Jay Spungin,
American Foundation for the Blind

Keynote Address, "Ourselves, Our Children, Our
Friends"

—Dr. Natalie Barraga, Professor Emeritus, University
of Texas at Austin.

10:45 a.m.-Noon GET-ACQUAINTED SESSION

"Howdy, Neighbor!" *An opportunity to meet NAPVI
Board Members, parents and others from your region.*

Noon-1:45 p.m. GENERAL SESSION (LUNCHEON)

Parents' Feelings About Blindness

Theme Presenter: Dr. Dean Tuttle (Colorado)

Respondents: Anna and Ed DelCastillo (California),
Larry Young (Michigan) and Susan Nichols (Virginia)

2:00-3:15 p.m. CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

#1 Making the System Work: P.L. 94-142

Presenters: Julie Farnam (Oregon) and Kate Aldrich
(California)

*Parent empowerment, advocacy, due process guaran-
tees and the need to know the basics of intervention*

#2 Coping: A Panel Presentation

Moderator: Dr. Lee W. Robinson (Texas)

Panelists: Linda Machado (Florida), Fay Corey (Penn-
sylvania), Dr. Marcia Collins-Moore (Oklahoma)

#3 Family Dynamics

Presenters: Dr. Jack Morse (New Hampshire) and
Elaine Moses (Texas)

*Based on a "typical" Thanksgiving dinner which brings
a variety of family members together, some of whom
have not worked out their own feelings about having
a child with a visual impairment in the family*

#4 Parents Helping Parents—A Cracker Barrel Session

Presenters: Patricia McCallum (Texas) and Susan
Fraser-Perrotta (Rhode Island)

#5 Words of Wisdom from Parents of Older Children

Presenters: Gale Hedgecock (New York), Mary Lou
Wilkinson (Arkansas) and Bill and Lois Filson
(California)

#6 Time and Stress Management

Presenter: Dr. Mary Wehling (Rhode Island) and Gail
Granados (Connecticut)

3:30-4:45 p.m. REPEAT SESSIONS 1-6

4:45-6:00 p.m. THE "LOOK 'E, SEE!" ROUND-UP
Margarita hour in the Exhibit Hall

7:00-10:00 p.m. ENVISIONING OUR CHILDREN
*The latest and best educational media presentation
about blindness*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1986 "OUR CHILDREN"

(EXHIBITS OPEN 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.)

8:30-9:45 a.m. GENERAL SESSION

Parents are the Best Teachers

Theme Presenter: Sherry Raynor (Massachusetts)

Respondents: Dr. Robert J. Winn (Illinois) and Dian
Cuthbertson (Massachusetts)

10:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m. CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS (Includes Box Lunch)

#7 Zero or Point of Diagnosis to Age 5

Panel Members: Dr. Kay Ferrell (New York), Elaine
Baldrige (Arizona) and Thomas Auletta (Florida)
*Socialization, recreation, mobility, development of
healthy self-identity, utilization of low vision and dai-
living skills for young blind or visually impaired children*

#8 Six to 12: The Elementary Years

Panel Members: Kathy Huebner (New York), Laura
Vidal (New York) and Gail Granados (Connecticut)
*Elements of a comprehensive curriculum, how to deal
with blindisms, how to help the gifted child. (A panel
of young persons with visual impairments will discuss
their experiences to launch this workshop.)*

#9 The Teen Years: Self-Concept

Presenters: Tom Miller (Massachusetts), Jacquelin
Carroll (New York), Norma Lucas (Ohio) and Judy
Scott (Texas)
*Extracurricular activities, grooming, sex education,
driving and other teenage concerns. (A panel of
teenagers will also express their own views on these
matters.)*

#10 When There Are Additional Impairments

Presenter: Dr. Ed Hammer (Texas)
Respondents: Joan Johnson (Missouri) and Julie
Urban (Massachusetts)
*Care management, teaching curricula and programs
as well as communication strategies, recreation,
socialization and activities of daily living for those with
multiple disabilities.*

3:00-4:30 p.m. GENERAL SESSION

Focus on Transition

Participants: Dr. Kay Ferrell, Jane Madelin, Tom
Miller and Kathy Huebner.

Summary of preceding sessions

6:30-9:00 p.m. TEXAS TWO-STEP BANQUET AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

*Winners of contests and drawings, special presentation
of NAPVI annual awards
Special Guest and Entertainment*

ATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1986

OUR FRIENDS"

30-9:30 a.m. GENERAL SESSION

General Initiatives for Visually Impaired Children

Special Guest Speaker: Federal Government Representative

45-11:15 a.m. CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

1 Educational Services—A Panel Discussion

Moderator: Jack Hazekamp (California)

Presenters: Sherry McGee (Texas), Elaine Moses (Texas) and Margaret Freeman (Texas)

Obtaining educational services for our children and coordinating and collaborating with professionals to develop the best possible individualized education plan

2 Organizations that Serve the Blind

Moderator: Jacqueline Carroll

Participants: Representatives from The American Printing House for the Blind, the Hadley School for the Blind, Social Security, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Rehabilitation Services

3 Technology

Presenters: Dr. Karen Luxton (New York), Sue Melrose (Illinois), Marty Kennedy (Massachusetts), Laura Vidal (New York) and John DeWitt (New York)

Putting technology in perspective; new breakthroughs important for learning

4 Recreation—A Panel Discussion

Moderator: Jeanie Flack (California)

Participants: Diane Lemke (Minnesota), Roseanne Copeland (Texas) and Dr. Mike Bina (Texas)

Opportunities for visually impaired children to participate in community recreational activities, beeper-ball teams and other family activities

5 Medical Services

Presenter: Dr. Everett Moody, Ophthalmologist (Texas)
Effective parent/professional collaborations; what parents can expect from the pediatrician and ophthalmologist; when to ask for a second opinion; what physicians expect from parents

6 Organizing a Local Parent Group

Presenters: Linda Katskee (Nebraska), Dr. Lee Robinson (Texas) and Jonathan McIntyre (Florida)

How-tos and when-tos!

12:45-1:30 p.m. CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

7 Social Services

Presenters: Lila Cabbil (Michigan), Ann Ross (Massachusetts) and Judi Stotland (California)

Accessing social services, working together with professionals in social work; how professionals can empower parents, giving them more control

8 Low Vision

Presenters: Dr. Anne Corn (Texas) and Audrey Smith (Pennsylvania)

Low vision training in the classroom; the development of vision

#19 Residential Schools

Presenters: Dr. Richard Umsted (Illinois), William English (Wisconsin) and Eileen Hudson

Role of the residential school and the need for a continuum of services

#20 Equipment and Toys

Presenters: Sherry Moore (Kentucky), Tom Auletta (Florida) and Mary Lou Wilkinson (Arkansas)

How to access materials from the American Printing House and how to make and/or adapt your own toys at home

#21 Teacher Preparation

Presenters: Mary Keefe (Massachusetts), Jan Lichtenstein (South Carolina) and Dr. Rose Marie Swallow (California)

The teacher shortage, recruiting efforts and how parents may help

#22 You and the Future: Legal Considerations

Presenter: Chris Mims, LL.B. (Texas)

Guardianship and other legal questions confronting parents

1:45-3:00 GENERAL SESSION

Presenters: Dr. Lee Robinson, Dr. Kay Ferrell

Summing It All Up

CONVENTION DEADLINES APPROACHING!

AIRLINE RESERVATIONS WITH DELTA DISCOUNT

—Call toll free 1-800-241-6760 and mention NAPVT's file number, E-0224, for 40% discount on bookings 45 days in advance (Sept. 20 deadline if you are planning to arrive Nov. 4) or 35% discount thereafter.

NAME YOUR CHILD IN THE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM BOOK—fill out the coupon on page 12 and return it with \$10 per child. Your child's name will then be listed in the first National Parent Conference Resource Book, sure to become a collector's item. Deadline September 25, 1986.

PRE-REGISTRATION—Send in your registration AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to take advantage of early registration fees; i.e., single parent \$90 instead of \$100 and parent couple \$130 instead of \$150. Deadline for pre-registration: November 1, 1986.

WHY BELONG TO A PARENT GROUP?—A \$100 savings bond will be awarded to the winner in each of three categories (parent, professional, child aged 18 or under) for an essay approximately 500 words in length (typed, brailled or handwritten). Extended deadline: postmarked no later than Oct. 20, 1986.

"This will be a tremendous opportunity for parents to meet other parents of visually impaired children, as well as teachers and other professionals interested in the well-being of visually impaired children."

—Elaine Moses, President of NAPVI

GERALDINE LAWHORN TO BE BANQUET SPEAKER

NAPVI's Friday evening banquet speaker will be Geraldine Lawhorn, an instructor and chairperson of the Deaf-Blind Department at Hadley School for the Blind, Winnetka, IL. Handicapped since her teenage years, Ms. Lawhorn earned a bachelor's Degree in Rehabilitation of Deaf-Blind Adults from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. She also attended the deaf-blind division, rehabilitation, of the Industrial Home for the Blind in New York.

She is a member of the Illinois Advisory Board for Services for Deaf-Blind Adults, DuSable Museum of African-American History and Homemakers, a national club of deaf-blind homemakers.

She has been the recipient of the Richard Kinney Challenge of Living Award and in 1966 she was given the Ann Sullivan Memorial Award in Washington National Cathedral. Recently, Ms. Lawhorn charmed her audience as the keynote speaker for the A.E.R.B.V.I. 1986 International Conference.

Ms. Lawhorn, a seasoned traveler, communicates by the method of finger spelling and loves to visit with others.

NAPVI's Outstanding Contribution Award for 1986 will be presented at the banquet. Previous recipients include Jo Taylor, Berthold Lowenfeld, Pauline M. Moor and Kathryn Maxfield. Numerous other awards will be presented also.

Titled "The Texas Two-Step Banquet and Awards Presentation," the banquet will feature a Texas motif and barbeque will be on the menu.

ESTIMATED NEEDS

Following is a list of anticipated expenses for the First National Parent Conference of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI), to be held November 5-8, 1986 in Arlington, Texas, mid-point between Dallas and Ft. Worth.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Plane Fare to TX from _____ | _____ |
| Taxi Fare from D/FW-Arlington-D/FW (\$12 round trip via TBS) | _____ |
| Room (Double/single Occupancy) 3 nights at \$60 | _____ |
| Registration (Parent, \$100; Professional \$150) (Fee includes four meals) | _____ |
| Additional Food Costs | _____ |
| Other: (Specify gas costs, if driving) | _____ |
| Name _____ | |
| Street Address _____ | |
| City, State, Zip _____ | |

WHICH WAY TO THE BEACH?

Ask any NAPVI member the way to the beach, and they will tell you it's by signing up to win one of two week-long stays at a condominium in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. So far, the most enthusiastic participants have been those East Coast seaboarders who already know where Heaven is (especially in December!) The dates of the condo stays are in December 1987.

The use of the condo was donated by NAPVI Lifetime Members Henry and Gale Hedgecock of New York.

The NAPVI office still has plenty of tickets if you would like to care to sell or buy more. The proceeds will be used for "scholarships" and other Board-designated purposes. The contest is void where prohibited by law. Two winners will be drawn at the NAPVI Parent Conference in November. The two individuals who win will be notified by registered letter or telephone. You may enter as many times as you like. The drawing is not limited to NAPVI members. Winners will be announced in the 4th Quarter, 1986 newsletter.

FUNDING PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NOW

September is the month when community service organizations such as the Kiwanis and Lions gear up after the summer; it is also a good month to go to them with a short written proposal requesting funds to attend the NAPVI Conference. (The yellow pull-out section of the 2nd Quarter, 1986, AWARENESS contained fund raising information; please contact the NAPVI/National office if you failed to receive a copy.)

These groups will need to know the details of your trip, how much it will cost, why you feel you will benefit from the Convention, how your participation will be of benefit not only to you but to the community as a whole.

If you need moral support in your funding efforts, please call NAPVI on the toll-free number for additional suggestions.

Parent groups around the country are working to send at least one or two representatives to the conference.

TRADE SHOW PROMISES VARIED FAIR

Booths are going quickly for the Trade Show, which will run concurrently with the first National Parent Conference according to Tom Auletta, Board Member in charge of the Trade Show. Exhibitors who have signed up so far include computer company representatives, many agencies serving the blind and companies with products of benefit to the visually impaired. Exhibits are over half sold for the event, which runs from Wednesday evening to Friday evening.

Highlight of the Trade Show will be a "Look 'E See Roundup" margarita party in the Exhibit Hall Thursday, November 8, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. The Roundup will give Conference participants a chance to meet company representatives and to see the latest and best in technology for the blind.

The Exhibit Hall is in the same area as the Conference sessions. All are housed in the spacious Arlington Convention Center, a state-of-the-art facility which was built just one year ago.

The exhibits will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m. on Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

To obtain an exhibitor's packet, write or telephone the NAPVI office, 713 W. St. Johns, P.O. Box 180806, (78751) 1-800-225-0227-994610 (U.S.) and 1-800-227-1537-994610 (Texas).

BACK TO SCHOOL: A TOUGH PARENTAL TASK!

With school just around the corner (or perhaps already in session by the time you receive your newsletter), just what do P.L. 94-142 and Section 504 mean to you? The following articles from Dr. Dan Yeard, associate professor of special education at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, were presented to parents at a workshop and help to clarify what the laws say!

WHAT THE LAWS SAY

PUBLIC LAW 94-142

A comprehensive law setting forth the fundamental rights necessary to ensure that all handicapped children receive the free, appropriate public education (in the least restrictive and most normal environment possible) to which they are entitled.

SECTION 504

Requires local school districts receiving federal funds of any kind to provide an appropriate education to all handicapped children within their jurisdiction; and presently nearly every school district in the country receives some kind of federal funds.

SUMMARY OF PARENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Public Law 94-142 is a federal law which provides for a free and appropriate public education to all handicapped children. This law requires the school to provide parents with every opportunity to become involved in their child's educational program and to document that involvement. These rights place responsibility on parents to become actively involved in the education of their child.

To ensure that this involvement occurs, several rights to which parents are entitled were included in Public Law 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act. These rights are referred to as "procedural safeguards." Following is a summary of specific areas addressed in these "procedural safeguards."

1. **Notice**—Parents must receive written notice before their child is evaluated or placed in any specialized educational program. Written notice is also required before any change in program.
2. **Consent**—Parental consent must be obtained *before* conducting a pre-placement evaluation and before initial placement of a handicapped child in a program providing special education and related services.
3. **Evaluation**—Parents have a right to a full evaluation of their child's individual education needs. Parents may obtain evaluations independent of the school.
4. **Records**—Parents have a right to know what records are kept on their child and the right to see them.
5. **Confidentiality of Information**—With the exception of certain individuals (school officials, for example, and teachers with legitimate educational interests), no one may see a child's records unless parents give their written permission.
6. **Least Restrictive Environment**—Parents have a right to have their child educated with non-handicapped children to the maximum extent appropriate.
7. **Hearings**—If at any point during identification, evaluation, or placement, parents do not agree with the educational decisions made concerning their child, they have the right to request a hearing. The right to appeal the findings and decisions of the hearing is also assured.

IEP—HELPFUL DEFINITIONS

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (IEP)—written document which outlines the instructional goals and services which make up a child's educational program for a specific period of time, usually one year. The IEP contains the following parts:

PRESENT LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE—what a child can do at the present time.

Example: Present Level—Can count to 10 by memory.

ANNUAL GOAL—a statement describing a skill or task that a child should be able to do at the end of a year.

Example: Present Level: Can count to 10 by memory.

Annual Goal: Will be able to count to 100 by memory.

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVE—a statement which breaks the annual goal into workable parts.

Example: Present Level: Can count to 10 by memory.

Annual Goal: Will be able to count to 100 by memory.

Short Term Objective: Will be able to count to 35 by Christmas.

RELATED SERVICES—services needed to help a handicapped child benefit from special education.

Examples:

speech pathology

physical therapy

recreation

early identification and assessment of disabilities

transportation

counseling services

parent counseling and training

medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes

health services

social work services

adapted physical education

THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE CHILD WILL PARTICIPATE IN A REGULAR EDUCATION PROGRAM—time spent in the regular classroom.

Example: Johnny will spend one hour a day in a 3rd grade physical education class.

STARTING DATES AND DURATION OF SERVICES—dates on which the child's program and/or services are scheduled to begin and end.

Example: Beginning September 16, 1986, Johnny will receive speech therapy. This service will continue until May 31, 1987.

EVALUATION CRITERIA, SCHEDULES, AND PROCEDURES—ways to determine if a child has achieved the objectives and goals listed in the IEP.

Example: Johnny will score 90% correct on teacher-made weekly arithmetic tests.

"Parents must regard themselves as the long-lasting resource and the only consistent persons who continually have the child's interest at heart throughout their lifetime. This organization, NAPVI, now is a means to help them fulfill that function."

TRUE YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

First quoted by Lee Robinson, first president of NAPVI and currently executive director, at the Ad Hoc Committee meeting in St. Louis in 1977 and headlined the 1st edition of AWARENESS in Spring 1980.

THE IEP DEVELOPMENT MEETING—A FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read the following information before the IEP development meeting.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The IEP development Meeting should be held at a time and place that is convenient for *you*. The purpose of this meeting is to write an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for your child.

The IEP is a written plan which states the instructional goals and special education services your child needs for the coming year. An IEP must contain the following items:

1. your child's present level of educational performance
2. annual goals and short term objectives
3. special education and related services needed by your child
4. how much time your child will be in a regular classroom
5. starting dates and length of service
6. evaluation criteria, schedules, and procedures

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

You, the parent, should attend the IEP development meeting, along with a representative from the school district and your child's teacher. Your child may also attend; and you, as well as the school, may wish to invite other individuals to the meeting. You have the right to be introduced to every person at the meeting and to question someone's attendance.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

Before coming to the IEP development meeting you will want to:

1. Make sure that you review and understand the information you have received on your rights as the parent of a child with special education needs.
2. Take a good look at your child's strengths and weaknesses so that you can share them with the other people at the meeting.
3. Make a short list of skills you want to see your child learn during the next year; also list those special education services you feel are needed by him/her.

AT THE MEETING:

As a parent your advice is very valuable in the development of the IEP. **DO NOT HESITATE TO:**

1. Speak up concerning what you feel should be in your child's IEP.
2. Ask questions about any part(s) of the IEP that is (are) not clear to you.
3. Understand your child's educational placement. Will your child receive the special education services he needs in the most "normal" school setting possible?
4. Make sure that all those points you consider important are included in the IEP. If not, ask questions about things you feel are missing.
5. Ask for a copy of your child's completed IEP if you would like one. This will allow you to keep up with and help in implementing your child's educational program.

AFTER THE MEETING:

1. If the IEP for your child is **SATISFACTORY**, decide how you can help to see that the instructional goals are reached. *Remember that communication between you and your child's teacher throughout the year is important to your child's success.*

2. If the IEP for your child is **UNSATISFACTORY** and you were unable to agree upon a plan before leaving the meeting, you must insist upon another meeting. *You do not have to sign the IEP at this meeting if you do not agree.* You may wish to call for a **DUE PROCESS HEARING**. This will give you a chance to meet with and tell your complaints to an impartial person who will work with you and the school to bring about a solution. A due process hearing should be asked for in writing, but only after you have tried to work out your differences with school personnel.

IEP REVIEW MEETING: PARENTS' CHECKLIST

INSTRUCTIONS: To prepare for an IEP Review Meeting, please answer the following eight questions **BEFORE** you go to the meeting.

SINCE THE LAST IEP MEETING: Yes No

1. My child has changed so much that he needs to be tested again. — —

(If you answered "Yes" to Question #1, you should indicate your desire, at the beginning of the IEP Review Meeting, to have your child re-tested.)

2. I have met and talked with my child's teacher(s) to discuss his individualized education program (IEP). — —

3. I am generally pleased with the educational program my child has been receiving. — —

4. The school has kept me well informed about my child's progress. — —

5. I am generally pleased with my child's progress. — —

Think about these questions:

- (a) In which areas has my child progressed the most?
- (b) In which areas has my child progressed the least?

6. At this time, I think parts of my child's IEP should be changed [Place a check () in front of those parts you think should be changed].

- _____ Level of Performance
- _____ Annual Goals
- _____ Short-Term Objectives
- _____ Related Services
- _____ Duration of Services
- _____ Educational Placement
- _____ Extent of Participation in Regular Education Program
- _____ Evaluation Procedures

7. In the future, I would like to talk with the school about my child's educational program more often. — —

8. I would like to be more involved in helping to implement my child's IEP. — —

(If you answered "Yes" to #7 or #8, you should express your feelings on these matters toward the end of the review meeting, after the IEP has been reviewed and revised.)



CONTACTING LEGISLATORS

(Excerpts from a letter from the Texas Commission for the Blind to VH interagency members—we thought these suggestions would apply to parents and parent groups as well. -Ed.)

When contacting a legislator concerning an issue:

1. Write an individual letter, *not* a signed form letter.
2. Make a phone call. Be informed about the issue when you call.
3. Contact at the appropriate time.

You might also want to educate your legislator by inviting him/her to see a program. Work with other organizations regarding your shared concerns and call the office of your representative or senator to follow up on what is being done about your concern or a bill.

REACH OUT AND TEACH WORKSHOP SET IN WEST VIRGINIA

This workshop, slated Sept. 22-23, is designed for those parents with visually impaired children between the ages of birth and four years. REACH OUT AND TEACH materials are based on a survey of parents, blind adults, teachers and teacher trainers which established priorities for what parents needed and wanted to know about their young visually handicapped child. Kay Alicyn Ferrell, Ph.D., author of REACH OUT AND TEACH, is tentatively scheduled to present the workshop. The workshop will be provided at no charge to participating parents, with the exception of transportation to and from the West Virginia School for the Blind.

For more information concerning the above program, contact: James R. Durst, coordinator of technical assistance and outreach services, West Virginia School for the Blind, 301 E. Main St., Romney, WV 26757 (304/822-3521, ext. 262.)

ADOPTIVE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN GAIN MEDICAID PROVISION CHANGES

P.L. 99-272, also known as COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) was signed into legislation in April, 1986. The law contains a number of key Medicaid reforms that will improve programs for pregnant women, infants and **adoptive children with special health care needs**. It includes two provisions regarding Medicaid eligibility for children with special needs who have been, or will be, adopted under either the Federal Title IV-E Assistance Program or under a 100 percent state funded adoption assistance program and for children in the Title IV-E Foster Care Program.

1. A child involved in Title IV-E adoption or foster care placement will be eligible for a Medicaid card in the state in which the child **actually lives** even if it is not the state which entered into the adoption assistance agreement or which makes the Title IV-E foster care payments.
2. COBRA amends the Medicaid statute to clarify the existence of an optional coverage group consisting of children with special medical needs residing in the 100 percent **state subsidized** adoptive placements, in which no federal Title IV-E assistance is involved.

•COBRA amends federal law to expressly provide that states may, now at their option, furnish Medicaid to state-subsidized adoptive children, regardless of the adoptive family's income and resources, so long as: an adoption assistance agreement is in effect; the state agency responsible for the adoption has determined that it would be difficult to place the child without Medicaid because of "special needs for medical or rehabilitative care;" and the child was eligible for Medicaid prior to the entry of the adoption assistance agreement or would have been eligible if the standards and methodologies of the Title IV-E foster care program, rather than the Title IV-A AFDC program, had been used.

The Medicaid residency improvements for IV-E children apply to Medicaid furnished on or after the first calendar quarter that begins after July 7, 1986.

(Ed. Note: This item is condensed from a memorandum to Child Health Advocates by the Children's Defense Fund and was subject to editorial interpretation. For more specific details and/or clarification, contact your Social Security Administration office and/or the Human Services office.)

PRESIDENT SIGNS ATTORNEY'S FEE MATTER INTO LAW

Pres. Reagan has now signed into law three bills of special interest to parents of visually impaired children, according to Sen. Lowell Weicker (R-CT), chairman of the the Subcommittee on the Handicapped.

S. 415, the Handicapped Children's Protection Act, signed Aug. 6 as P. L. 99-372, reverses the Supreme Court's *Smith v. Robinson* decision of July 5, 1984 and authorizes Courts to award attorney's fees to parents who, after exhausting administrative procedures, prevail in P. L. 94-142 civil court action to protect their child's right to a free appropriate public education.

S. 974, the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act of 1986, signed May 23, 1986 as P. L. 99-319, provides for the establishment of a protection and advocacy system for the mentally ill in each state. These agencies will afford mentally ill persons access to a system which will assist them in securing the rights guaranteed under federal and state statutes and the United States Constitution and reaffirms the federal commitment to eliminate abuse and neglect of mentally ill citizens in residential facilities.

S. 1874, The Education of the Deaf Act, signed Aug. 4, 1986 as P. L. 99-371, allows a five-year reauthorization cycle for both Gallaudet College and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) and changes the name of Gallaudet College to Gallaudet University. Key to this law is the establishment of a Commission on Education of the Deaf to make a study of the status of deaf education throughout the U.S. and formulate recommendations for future policy development.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE ADDED TO MANDATE

A bill which could create universal access to services for handicapped children beginning at birth, the Education of the Handicapped Amendments (S. 2294), was referred to the House Subcommittee on Select Education on June 30, 1986 after its unanimous passage by the full Senate on June 6. The bill reauthorizes for three years the discretionary programs under P. L. 94-142 and contains a major new early childhood initiative.

This initiative establishes a new state grant program to serve handicapped children beginning at birth and further requires that services for 3-5 year olds be mandated under P. L. 94-142. Sen. Lowell Weicker, Jr., chairman of the Subcommittee on the Handicapped, said the new early childhood initiative would "bring federal law up to date with the state-of-the-art in the field of special education." "Handicapped children who receive early intervention have an opportunity to maximize their potential for growth in ways undreamed of, even a short time ago," he said.

Additional provisions in S. 2294 extend the discretionary programs currently authorized under parts C-F of the EHA with authorization increases for fiscal years 1987-1990. The House Subcommittee on Select Education has held hearings regarding S. 2294, but has not introduced a re-authorization bill. The current authorization expires September 30, 1986.

FAIR INSURANCE COVERAGE ACT PROPOSED

U.S. Rep. Jim Slattery (D-KS) recently co-sponsored a bill in the House of Representatives which has been dubbed the Fair Insurance Coverage Act. Intended to eliminate discrimination against the blind by insurance companies, H.R. 2741 would require that insurance rates and coverage for blind people be the same as for sighted people.

Currently and in the past, blind people have been denied coverage or required to pay extra premiums solely on the grounds that they are blind. According to Rep. Slattery, "Sound actuarial statistics do not exist to demonstrate that blindness results in increased risk for insurance carriers. Yet underwriting rules followed by many companies require extra premiums, place limits on coverage to be provided under certain conditions or deny coverages in some instances altogether."

The proposed legislation would establish a federal policy that "...no insurer shall refuse to make insurance available to any applicant, because of blindness or degree of blindness; or treat any blind applicant or insured differently than any other applicant or insured with respect to the terms, conditions, rates, benefits or requirements of any insurance policy or contract."

(from *Hearsay Newsletter*, published quarterly by the Association of Radio Reading Services, Inc. (AARS), Spring, 1986 ed. Let's rally on this one! Contact your congresspersons in support of this bill (H.R. 2741). Rep. Slattery is hoping for approval of the bill "within the next few months." We hope he's right. We'll keep you posted. —Ed.)

NAPVI RESOLUTION ON INSURANCE

(Adopted November, 1982 by the Board of Directors)

WHEREAS parents of visually impaired children—and particularly visually impaired children with additional impairments—have great difficulty locating an insurance company willing to provide medical coverage and life insurance; and

WHEREAS, when a child is insured, medical needs often exceed the limits of coverage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in November, 1982, urges the insurance industry and state insurance regulatory agencies to become sensitive to meeting the needs of visually and multiply impaired children and their families and to seek creative and acceptable solutions to this pressing social need.

PREPARING FOR WORK: A HEALTH CAREER EDUCATION?

(Ed.'s Note: Information in this article was extracted from a pamphlet and letter from St. Mary's Junior College. We ALWAYS appreciate any information about career opportunities for our kids.)

St. Mary's Junior College, Minneapolis, MN, is a private co-educational institution, one of two junior colleges in the country devoted to health career education. Since 1977, they have been the Rehabilitation Services Administration national pilot site for training visually impaired allied health technicians.

Programs which have been adapted for visually impaired students are: chemical dependency family treatment, counselor training, medical record technician, medical transcription specialist, occupational therapist assistant, physical therapist assistant and special education assistant.

Adaptive equipment available for classroom and clinical use by visually impaired students includes talking and digital meters, sphygmomanometers, tactile anatomical models, diagrams, closed circuit magnifying TV, Apple computers, Echo speech, talking calculators, braillewriters, etc.

Support services include a free scholastic tutoring program, sory aids lending library and job placement assistance.

At present, 16 blind or visually impaired students are enrolled and working toward a certificate or associate degree.

For more information about admission procedures, screening procedures, orientation and assessment, transfer credit and financial aid, contact St. Mary's Junior College, ATTN: Admissions Office, 2500 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis, MN 55454 or 612/332-5521, ext. 305.

PARENT POWER

Dear NAPVI:

This is in response to your call for candidates for a "Parent Power" column.

Because of our son's visual impairment and his age, we had to focus on "transitioning." To that end, I was fortunate to be the parent representative from Oregon to AFB's Transition Institute last January, and so have become a founding member of the "Oregon Transition Team...School to Work for Visually Impaired Students in Oregon."

In addition to that team, I was asked by the Oregon State Department of Education to serve on the coordinated working group for the project to the Oregon Transition Team which includes all handicapped students and is, therefore, on a larger scale.

This coming October, I will be the parent representative on a 4-person panel on Transitioning at the Oregon Special Education Teachers Workshop and have served in the same capacity on a panel on Least Restrictive Environment at last year's Oregon Special Education Teachers Workshop.

Parents are being asked to participate more and more in the planning and decision making process of their children's lives. Parents are also becoming more aggressive about seeking out the opportunities to participate.

Thank you for the opportunity to crow a little bit. We all need to do it once in a while.

Sincerely,

Jim Leiper, Househusband from Salem,

IN CHICAGO...

Many parents of visually impaired children recently took part in the 1986 International Conference of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (A.E.R.B.V.I.) in Chicago. NAPVI President Elaine Moses, Vice President Eileen Hudson and Office Manager Keitha Robinson were part of a panel, "IEPs: A View from the Other Side of the Table." Fay Eldar of Skokie, IL was also a presenter in "Aid to Daily Living for Visually Handicapped Infants and Children." Sherry Raynor, president of the International Institute, Birthright, chaired Division 8 (preschool) sessions, NAPVI Executive Director Lee Robinson served as a panel member of a Division 8 session "State of the Art in Infant and Preschool Services" and Patricia McCallum of Seagoville, TX was a presenter in a transition session entitled "Transition Trauma: A Parent's Perspective."

"Parent Perspective" was also the subject of a speech given by Mary Lou Wilkinson recently at the 10th national convention of the National Association for Vision Professionals (NAVP) in Little Rock, AR. Members expressed interest in learning about NAPVI and are planning to try to send a representative to the convention.

Please let us hear from you about your activities. Send your items to PARENT POWER, C/O Mary Lou Wilkinson, 1000 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, AR 72335.)

SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF P.L. 94-142

Principle of Zero-Reject/Child Find. A school system can no longer exclude a handicapped student from a public education because of the specific nature or degree of his/her handicap, e.g., physical, emotional, mental. All individuals who have been excluded in the past and are within state compulsory school age limits must be located and provided with appropriate educational services. All states are required to implement child find procedures to locate unserved children and to inform parents or guardians of available programs.

Principle of Nondiscriminatory Testing. Students who are being considered for specialized services must be evaluated by a multidisciplinary team including at least one teacher or specialist with knowledge in the area of the specific disability, e.g., physical therapy, resource consulting. Tests or assessment instruments must be administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication, e.g., manual signs, communication boards. Furthermore, testing instruments must be validated for the specific purpose for which they are used and tailored to assess specific areas of educational need; not merely those which are designed to provide a single general intelligence quotient. In addition, no single test can be used as the sole criterion for determining placement into a special education program. Additional methods of evaluation particularly for severely handicapped individuals would include observations of the student in his/her natural environment, i.e. at home, in the classroom or playground, to better assess current skill levels.

Principle of Individual Education Programs (IEP). For each handicapped student, a written statement must be developed and implemented which includes a) a statement of the student's present level of educational performance, b) a statement of annual goals including short-term instructional objectives, c) a statement of specific education and related services to be provided to the student and the extent to which the student will be able to participate in regular educational programs, d) the projected dates for initiation of services and the anticipated duration of services, and e) appropriate objective criteria and evaluation procedures and schedules for determining, on at least an annual basis, whether the short-term instructional objectives are being achieved.

Principle of Least Restrictive Environments. To the maximum extent appropriate, handicapped students, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are to be educated with children who are not handicapped. Special classes, separate schooling, or other segregation of handicapped children from the regular educational environment can occur only when the nature or severity of the handicap is such that education in regular classes or facilities with the use of supplementary aides and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. In addition, a continuum of alternative placements must be available to meet the needs of handicapped children for special education and related services, i.e. instruction in regular classes, resource consulting, special classes, special schools, home instruction.

Principle of Procedural Due Process. Parents of handicapped children must be given prior notice of a preplacement evaluation and for the initial placement of a student in a program providing special education and related services. The notice must include a full explanation of all procedural safeguards available to the parents, e.g., impartial due process hearings, description of action proposed or refused, the specific reason for the action, and a description of the evaluation procedures. The notice must be written in language understandable to the general public and provided in the native language of the parents. Written consent must be obtained

from the parents before any action is taken to hold an evaluation or place the student in special education programs.

Principle of Parent Participation. Parents must receive written notice in their native language whenever an educational agency proposes to evaluate their child, identify him/her as handicapped or change the educational placement. Parents are able to participate in placement and programming meetings and to have an impartial due process hearing if they are not in agreement with the decisions resulting from the above procedures. They additionally have the right to inspect and review any educational records relating to their child.

To insure that these rights are upheld, the school district must: 1) obtain parental consent in writing prior to a formal evaluation, 2) ensure that the multidisciplinary staff conference is held at a time and place that allows parental participation, and 3) assist parents in taking whatever steps are necessary to utilize the hearing process if they are not in agreement with the decisions reached concerning their child's educational placement.

Principle of Appropriate Education. All handicapped students must be provided with appropriate services, personnel and facilities necessary to meet full educational opportunities. In regard to severely handicapped students this would include: appropriate student-teacher ratios, appropriate age ranges within classrooms, normal school day hours, interactions with nonhandicapped peers, adequate supportive staff, e.g. physical, occupational, and speech therapists, appropriate and adequate materials and equipment, functional curriculum content, data based instruction and transportation services.

OVERBROOK LAUNCHES OPERATION TALENT

A nationwide search is underway to bring the best and brightest blind and visually impaired high school students to Overbrook School for the Blind.

Dubbed "Operation Talent," the program offers a limited number of full and partial scholarships to visually handicapped young people between 14 and 19 years of age who have demonstrated superior academic achievement and/or exceptional talent in other areas such as leadership, athletics, or the arts.

According to the school's director, Dr. Joseph J. Kerr, Jr., "Operation Talent" is designed to attract students of high academic promise who plan to go on to higher education and are seeking a college preparatory curriculum.

"The program, one of several specialized offerings at Overbrook School for the Blind, is dedicated to helping talented, visually handicapped youngsters develop to their maximum potential. Our aim is to help them learn to use their superior abilities so that they can become productive, contributing adults and leaders in their own right," says Kerr.

The special talent-nurturing curriculum includes a complete range of college preparatory courses plus opportunities to grow in the performing arts and interscholastic athletics.

Located on a suburban 20-acre campus on the edge of Philadelphia, the residential facility is one of the oldest and most outstanding educational institutions of its type in the world.

"Because we are so near the center of a major metropolitan area, we are able to offer our students opportunities that are virtually non-existent elsewhere. Over the years students from Overbrook have been enrolled in courses at the University of Pennsylvania under the 'Young Scholars Program' and others have studied music at the internationally acclaimed Curtis Institute," Kerr says.

Further information on "Operation Talent" and application forms may be obtained by writing to: Dr. Joseph J. Kerr, Jr., director, Overbrook School for the Blind, 64th & Malvern Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151, or by calling the school at 215/877-0313.

JEANIE FLACK COMMENDED

Jeanie Flack, retiring member of the Board of Directors from Region V, has been commended for her long years of service to NAPVI.

NAPVI President Elaine Moses said, "Jeanie has brought a wealth of real-life commitment to the Board during her term, as her dedication to improving the lives of visually impaired children is total. We have appreciated her long years of service to NAPVI and look forward to her continued participation in this organization."

One of the original members of the Ad Hoc Committee which formed NAPVI, Mrs. Flack has served on NAPVI's Board since its inception.

Her duties have included chairmanship of the Affiliations Committee and membership on the Fund Raising Committee.

Mrs. Flack and her husband, Gary, are the parents of two children, Kenny and Randy, both of whom have RLF. Originally from Montana, the Flacks currently reside in Harbor City, CA.

ELECTION SLATED

During September NAPVI parent/family members from two regions will be participating in a by-mail election to fill two positions on the Board of Directors. Voters will come from Region V (Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota) and Region VI (Idaho, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii).

Kay MacKnight, 4800 Hidden Oaks, Arlington, TX 76017 (817/478-2313) has been nominated for the Region V seat recently held by Board Member Jeanie Flack and Incumbant Kate Aldrich, 409 E. 22nd St., Santa Ana, CA 92706 (714/836-7794) is seeking re-election to her seat on the Board.

Mrs. MacKnight and her husband, Johnny, are parents of 12-year-old Holly, who is legally blind and has vision perceptual problems. Mrs. MacKnight's special interest area is helping children with visual problems access computers. She initiated a project to bring computers, speech synthesizers and braille edit software to her daughter's junior high school and supported efforts to have VH teachers obtain inservice education about computers. Sensory Aids Foundation recently published an article Mrs. MacKnight wrote about this process.

Ms. Aldrich and her husband, Rich Lind, are parents of 4 year old Ben, who is developmentally delayed as the result of extreme prematurity and totally blind. Current editor of the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired newsletter, she is also a parent trainer for TASK (Teams of Advocates for Special Kids) in Orange County, assisting parents of children with special needs to effectively advocate for their children.

Voters in both areas are urged to return their ballots as quickly as possible in the stamped, return envelope provided. There is room on each ballot for a write-in selection.

Those elected must be a parent of a visually impaired child, have been a member of NAPVI/National at least one year, be actively involved in areas associated with the visually impaired, have three letters of reference, submit a letter of intent to serve and be able to attend all Board meetings.

Region I Board Member Diana Cuthbertson of Boston, MA is current chairman of the Nominations Committee.

HOW TO BE A WINNER

Develop the talents you have to their optimum potential. A left undeveloped is a talent not worth having.

Expose yourself to the world. You can't discover who you are being something you're not.

Tackle each goal and each day for its own sake. The skill strategies of your opponents merely uncover your own strengths and weaknesses.

Recognize where you are going and what you want to do. With a goal and a clear sense of direction you will only go around circles and never get anywhere.

Motivate yourself by associating with strivers. You'll tend to conform at the level of those around you.

Intensity is essential to success. You'll never reach a goal wishing for it to happen. Set your goal and direct your efforts toward attaining it.

Never exaggerate your own importance. It doesn't matter how successful you are, how important your skills may be to the task; you're always replaceable.

Among your most important assets are your experiences—they can never be taken away. Try things that are new and difficult. They will broaden your life and expand your knowledge.

Time builds into days, weeks, months and years; but the basis is a day. Each day's accomplishments add up over time. No single day, in itself, will cause you to succeed or fail. It is the totality of the days that count in the end. A wasted day can never be made up and will slow advancement toward the goal.

Ignore those who tell you to take it easy. You can't succeed by "taking it easy." The challenge of the impossible makes life exciting. Strive for more than "good enough." Achievement of a goal gives only a fraction of the satisfaction of a difficult goal.

Overcome the fear of failure. If you've never failed, you've probably never really tried anything and you have as much right to fail as you have to succeed. But, when you do fail, pick yourself up and try again.

Never be satisfied with reaching a goal. Once you reach it, enjoy it briefly, and then move toward your next goal. The journey toward the goal is much more rewarding than actually achieving it. If you stop at the achieved goal, you will stagnate.

(Origin Unknown)

Mmmmmmm! AN ALPHABET SOUP CONTEST IS BREWING!

ac-ro-nym (ak'ra nim) n. a word formed from the first (or first few) letters of a series of words, as *radar*, from *radio* detecting and ranging.

—Webster's New World Dictionary,

NAPVI Secretary Judith Stotland is busy gathering up many of these acronyms as possible to use in an Alphabet Soup Contest during the first day of the Convention. A trophy prize will be awarded to that participant decoding as many of these initialized tongue-tanglers as possible.

To sharpen your skills for this endeavor, why not sit down and decode all the initialed letters you know, beginning with AARD (Admission, Review and Dismissal) and ending with...oh, dear, what are some acronyms that begin with "A"?

The contest will be run by NAPVI Secretary Judi Stotland, a parent from California, who has been involved with NAPVI 94-142 and parent support issues in her state and nation for many years, thereby gaining a wealth of experience. ACRONYMICALLY?



SCANNING TOLL FREE, HOTLINE NUMBERS

The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) has established free telephone hotline to answer queries about products, books, services, technology and requests for general information about blindness. The AFB hotline, 1-800-AFB-LIND (232-5463) is in operation from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard or eastern daylight time, Monday through Friday. Calls to the Hotline can be made from anywhere in the contiguous continental United States. New York residents should use (212) 620-2174 to reach the hotline. Through the AFB Hotline we hope to provide consumers and professionals in the field with a faster and more efficient means of getting comprehensive, up-to-date information about blindness and visual impairment," said AFB Executive Director William F. Gallagher.

THE CENTER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION EXCHANGE operates a toll-free hotline for educators, parents and handicapped individuals. Call between 1 and 6 p.m. eastern time to consult with a staff member or request information on the latest technology available for handicapped persons. At other times, leave a message and a staff member will get in touch with you. Call toll-free 1-800-345-TECH or write to The Center for Special Education Technology, 1920 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091.

THE HADLEY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, America's only triply-certified correspondence school for the visually impaired, also has a toll-free number: 1-800-323-4238. Hadley, a school which parents of VI children in transition should be familiar with, is now branching out into early childhood coursework.

We would be remiss if we failed to list NAPVT's toll-free number: 1-800-225-0227-994610 (U.S.) and 1-800-222-1537-994610 (Texas). If that seems like too many numbers, we will clarify by saying that the last six digits are for NAPVT's billing purposes.

We invite other agencies with toll-free numbers to send them to us for inclusion in this column.—Ed.)

SHOPPING BAG

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about their item with the NAPVI membership. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion.

HAL'S PALS are a unique new collection of soft-sculptured dolls offered by FOR CHALLENGED KIDS BY MATTEL, INC. Each doll is made by hand, 19" tall, has a one-of-a-kind smile and a movable face, has a sports or fashion outfit that can be put on or taken off and is safety tested and easy to clean. What's different about Hal's Pals? Little extras to help kids "learn some very important lessons about accepting their own disabilities and understanding the disabilities of others." Hal and his pals come with their own pre-set accessories: braces, wheelchairs, cane and puppy guide, hearing aids. Two of the dolls, Preppy Pal and Fashion Pal,

can be accessorized with your choice of the above. Mattel advertises that any profits will be donated to approved charitable organizations that help America's children with special challenge. Must be ordered directly from the company by calling the toll-free number, 1-800-824-4000 or writing to For Challenged Kids by Mattel, Inc., 5959 Triumph Street, City of Commerce, CA 90040. Will not be advertised or sold in stores (at least, not at this time).

CHRISTMAS GREETING CARDS—combination print and braille messages are available 14 for \$3.50 and/or 8 for \$2.50. Add \$.70 extra per set for name in print—name brailled free by request only. Everyday greeting cards and envelopes are also available. For Christmas cards, order as soon as possible. (When ordering, please include the full amount of payment with postage added and send to Harry A. Fribush, 400 Hudson Ave., Apt. 104, Albany, NY 12203).

COMPUTER PAPER is now available from American Thermoform Corporation, manufacturers of thermoform duplicators. CompuDot samples can be obtained and discounts are available on volume purchases. Contact American Thermoform at 2311 Travers Ave., City of Commerce, CA 90040 (213/723-9021).

LARGE TYPE TYPEWRITERS are available from the Typewriting Institute for the Handicapped, 3102 W. Augustus Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85021, (602/939-5344). Each has a rebuilt office sized IBM Model D large type. Pricing/ordering information available at above address.

TALKING QUARTZ TIME. Four function settings: Timer/Alarm/Clock/Real (actual time), melody alarm and a 3-minute snooze reminder that tells you "Hurry up, hurry up, it is late;" includes a 24-hour countdown timer, weighs 6 oz. and has dimensions of 4½" x 2½" x 5/8" depth. \$29.95 plus \$2.50 shipping from Trian Corporation, #302, 177 Telegraph Rd., Bellingham, WA 93226 or call 1-800-628-2828, ext. 558.

CLOTHING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN—Functional, yet stylish clothing for children who wear braces, drool, and/or are physically impaired is available through a Massachusetts company. Contact: Exceptionally Yours, 22 Prescott Street, Newtonville, MA 02160.

LIVING SKILLS HINT

Traveling America in a motor home is everyman's dream, but making the same journey with eight visually impaired teenagers could have turned into a nightmare, but for Dr. Lena Peck's penchant for "organization, organization, organization!"

Journeying to Washington, D.C. last month to present Pres. Reagan a tape of the Texas School for the Blind's Sing Song group, Dr. Peck's students were able to make the ten-day round trip journey right on schedule, because Dr. Peck, who has been planning this trip with her students for 10 months, had stocked the motor home with sufficient provisions to keep the group on the road through breakfast and lunch. She also had the foresight to plan games and a small curriculum to help the teens learn about managing their trip money.

Each teen was responsible for his/her own gear and each had a definite compartment in the motor home to store that gear. Additionally, each student had an assigned chore. Even the adults who were along to chaperone and drive were responsible to serve as sighted guides on the tour stops, which included Nashville and Virginia.

All of you have tried something that "worked" with your visually impaired child. Please take time to share with other parents and drop your hint today to our Hints Editor, Gale Hedgecock, 2895 State Road, Rt. 49-PD-2, Blossvale, NY 13308.

POST CONFERENCE TOUR SCHEDULE PROMISES FUN

Conference participants who will be staying over Saturday evening (taking advantage of the fact that airline rates are usually cheaper if you stay over a Saturday night) have three tour options.

- A: A Saturday night fling at the famed Billy Bob's nightclub and the Ft. Worth Stockyards, noted not only for its large sale arenas, but its retail specialty shops. Billy Bob's is offering a special discount rate to NAPVI Convention goers. Billy Bob's house band tunes up at 9 p.m. and the celebrity attraction comes on at 11 p.m. Buses will be available for the shuttle between the hotel and Ft. Worth.
- B. Dallas Shopping Tour—Noon to 4 p.m., Sunday. This tour includes a swing past Reunion Tower, John F. Kennedy Memorial, the original Neiman-Marcus, Thangs-Giving Square, allowing time for a spectacular shopping experience at the Galleria featuring Macy's, Saks, Marshall Fields, Lord and Taylor, Gumps, Tiffany & Company and three entire stories of specialty shops.
- C. Dallas Sightseeing Tour—Noon to 4 p.m., Sunday: A point-of-interest tour including Dallas' historic monuments and architectural landmarks, such as the Cotton Bowl, Reunion Tower, John F. Kennedy Memorial, the original Neiman-Marcus, the New Arts District, Apparel Mart and World Trade Center, prestigious Dallas homes including that of its most famous citizens—the Dallas Cowboys at Texas Stadium! Also planned is a brief stop at Las Colinas to allow you to take a stroll down the cobblestone paths along the Mandalay Canal!

Tour costs will be submitted in your pre-registration packets.



SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Families of Children Under Stress provides emotional, physical and informational support to parents facing difficult situations related to their children's short- and long-term illness. FOCUS has a variety of resources available to help parents care for their child at home and publishes a newsletter for parents. Contact FOCUS, Families Helping Families, 1185 Walker Drive, Decatur, GA 30030.

National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) Networking Program. Contact other families whose child has the same disability as your child. Include your child's disability and give them written permission for you to be contacted by others in the same situation. Write to NORD, 1182 Broadway, Suite 402, New York, NY 10011.

Support Group for Parents of Children with Cataracts is a newly formed organization to provide support and information to parents, to educate society about congenital cataracts and the need for early detection and to promote research into causes and treatments. Contact Kathy Sadoski, 1255 Dulong, Madison Heights, MI 48071.

(All of the above reprinted from the WVIRC Newsletter, Volume 2, No. 5)

WINTER CAMP EVENTS SET

Camp Wapanacki (Vermont) is pleased to announce 1986-1987 winter season schedule of events for blind and visually impaired youths, adults and families. The season will begin with a Cross-Country Ski Clinic December 13-14 to teach competitive sighted cross-country skiers to guide blind and visually impaired skiers. Next there will be a cross-country ski event December 1986, through January 1, 1987, for blind and visually impaired adults. Events are not limited to just skiing. The camp can schedule skiing, rest and relaxation or other activities just about any weekend or week all winter. To design your own winter vacation call or write Kris and Joe Ingram, Campa Wapanacki, RR 1, 1086, Hardwick, VT 05843, (802/472-6612).

GEARING UP: THE NEW USABA CHILDREN'S DIVISION

The United States Association of Blind Athletes, with help from a grant by the Delta Gamma Foundation, is in the process of starting a children's division for blind and visually impaired children ages 6 and up. The developmental aspect of sport participation rather than competition, will be the emphasis of this division. The program will help children develop basic physical and motor skills that are fundamental to success in later sport participation. The children's program is made up of different stages: (1) the first stage is fundamental gross motor skills, (2) the second stage is more organized activities, and (3) the third level is lead-up activities for a specific sport.

The USABA is currently celebrating its tenth anniversary of competition for visually impaired athletes. It is the purpose of the USABA to promote and provide sports opportunities for visually impaired individuals of all ages. They have competition from local through international, in both summer and winter championships in a wide variety of sports.

For further information call or write Arthur Copeland, President, USABA, 55 West California Ave., Beach Haven Park, 08008 (609/492-1017) or Brenda Davis at #5 Colleen Court, Little Rock, AR 72212 (501/227-0502).

CONTRIBUTIONS

Items intended for publication should be sent to AWARENESS, 500 Laughrun Drive, Forrest City, AR 72335. Material may be submitted in handwriting, type or on cassette and must be signed.

Deadline for 4th quarter: Dec. 15, 1986.

All items submitted become the property of NAPVI and will not be returned. We reserve the right to edit.

SKI FOR LIGHT

The 12th Annual Ski for Light event will take place Feb. 1-2 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, MI. Persons 18+ years, blind and sighted, will take advantage of the ski trails (both cross-country skiing), modern accommodations, interesting meals, stimulating cultural presentations and lots of socializing and dancing.

Blind skiers follow pre-set tracks or grooves in the snow while a sighted partner teaches proper skiing techniques, informs the skier of changes in terrain and gives interesting description about the countryside.

Total cost for the week is \$375 (double occupancy), including room, board, registration, transportation from the airport and use of ski equipment to participants who do not have their own. First time applicants can apply for financial assistance to help with transportation costs to Traverse City.

For an application and/or information, contact (in braille or type) Ms. Judy Dixon, 1104 N. Stafford St., Arlington, VA 22201 call 703/276-9191.

BOOKS

THE FUTURE OF WORK FOR DISABLED PEOPLE: EMPLOYMENT AND THE NEW TECHNOLOGY is a compilation of papers presented at a May, 1985 symposium of the same name and co-sponsored by the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) and the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (PCEH). This publication features a foreword by U.S. Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole. **THE FUTURE OF WORK** divided into three sections—"The Work Content," "The Changing Workplace" and "The Future" and is available from AFB, 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011 in print or on cassette for \$10. **MAKING THE BEST OF IT: HOW TO COPE WITH BEING HANDICAPPED** by Gillian K. Holzhauser, "reveals keys to achieving a happy, adjusted life despite handicaps." Ms. Holzhauser, legally blind since the age of 5 months, gives her personal account of surmounting the frustrations a handicapped person inevitably suffers. She stresses the importance of remaining realistic, positive and motivated, of not letting a handicap become an albatross around your neck." A law student at Ohio Northern University, she also writes for newspapers and magazines and is active in her community. For review copies/author interview, contact Toni Simmons (202/572-2266) at Ballantine/Epiphany Books, 11 E. 50th St., New York, NY 10022. It sells for \$10.95. Foreword by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale.

RECENT PAMPHLETS AND TAPES

A TEACHER'S GUIDE TO VISION PROBLEMS—includes a checklist for detecting vision difficulties in classroom students. American Optometric Association, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141.

DIABETES, VISION IMPAIRMENT AND BLINDNESS—designed to help diabetics with severe vision loss and their families, as well as medical and rehab professionals who work with them. AFB, 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011.

CAREER CHOICES FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS: CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT OFFICES—a 12-page pamphlet published jointly by AFB and the College Placement Council. Offers tips on strategies, programs, and state and voluntary services which enable blind and visually handicapped college students to make full use of the resources and expertise of the college placement office. The College Placement Council plans to distribute 5,000 of the pamphlets to college campuses throughout the country. More information can be obtained from AFB, Publications and Information Services Dept., 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011 (212/620-2154).

A JOB IN YOUR FUTURE—a 90-minute cassette for visually impaired job hunters, contains a wealth of information on this subject gleaned from experts in the field and visually handicapped individuals who have found and successfully perform jobs that they enjoy. Free upon request, made possible by a grant from the Mark, Inc., Foundation. Write to Dialogue, The Information Service for the Visually Impaired, 3100 Oak Park Ave., Berwyn, IL 60402, (312/749-1908).

HELPING THE HANDICAPPED TEENAGER MATURE—available from Public Affairs Pamphlets, #504, 381 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016 for \$1 each. Also **JOBS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE** for \$1 each from the same address.

MORE CATALOGS—IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING

We appreciate the response we've received in our quest for catalogs of interest to parents of the visually impaired. We'll continue to update this list—Ed.)

LS & S GROUP: Specializing in products for the visually impaired, including talking products (such as calculator, watch, blood pressure kit), children's learning aids, magnifiers, etc. Address to order catalog: P.O. Box 673, Northbrook, IL 60065 or call toll free: 1-800-468-4789.

BOOKS ON CASSETTE: Books abridged to 2 or 3 hours listening time. Each is read aloud by a world famous actor or author, such as James Mason, Lauren Bacall or John le Carre and recorded in Dolby Living Sound. Varied categories ranging from mysteries and thrillers, autobiography and non-fiction, classics, science fiction and horror, fiction to children's favorites. Libraries, schools or institutions may receive a 25% discount on orders of 10 or more titles. Listen For Pleasure, Box 588, Lewiston, NY 14092-0588. Call toll free 1-800-962-5200 (In New York, 1-800-252-1144).

GWYNEDD DESIGNS CATALOG: Gifts, fashion accessories and a fashion news section to keep you informed of the latest trends. The September, 1986 through August, 1987 edition is available on cassette. Free and automatically sent to customers having placed orders from the 1985-1986 catalog, it costs \$3 to new customers, \$2 of which will be credited toward your first order. Gwynedd Designs, Attn: Susan Friedman, P.O. Box 17872, Milwaukee, WI 53217 or 414/351-6880.

FREE BIBLE CASSETTES OFFERED

Free Bible cassette tapes of the New and Old Testaments, plus Bible messages and studies in English and many other languages are available, as a gift, to every blind and visually impaired person or to those having a physical disability which permanently affects their ability to read, from Bible Alliance, Inc., a non-profit, non-denominational organization.

Bible Alliance, Inc. records scriptures on cassette for **FREE DISTRIBUTION** to the visually impaired through organizations serving low vision and blind persons. A sister organization, Bible Alliance Mission, Inc. provides free distribution of the scriptures directly to visually impaired individuals.

Orders from individuals should include written certification of blindness or reading impairment from a source recognized by The Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, such as an organization for the blind or visually impaired, a rehabilitation teacher, a librarian or physician, etc. Additional certification is not necessary if a competent authority, as recognized by The Library of Congress, orders for the individual, giving name(s) and address(es) on letterhead stationery.

The material will be sent "Free Matter for the Blind" within 6 weeks. Further details are available upon request by writing to Bible Alliance, Inc., P.O. Box 1549, Bradenton, FL 33506, (813/748-3031).



RESOURCE BOOK GOING TO PRESS!

"Name" Your Child Today!

The NAPVI office is compiling the Adbook/Program for the NAPVI Convention, listing speakers, vendors, past and present officers and board members, all for this First National Convention of Parents. When it's ready, we hope it will be a momento to treasure, as well as a valuable resource guide for conference participants to take home with them. As a part of this, NAPVI is announcing our "NAME YOUR CHILD IN THE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM BOOK" effort. For \$10 per child, you may list his/her full name, hometown and state!

If you would like to see your child's name listed (up in lights!) simply fill out the following coupon and return it with your remittance to: NAPVI, P.O. BOX 180806, AUSTIN, TX 78718. Listings must reach us by September 20, 1986.

Child's Name (as you wish it listed). Please type or print clearly: _____

Child's City and State: _____

Your Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

() I won't be able to attend the conference, but I would like my child's name listed. I understand NAPVI will send me a copy of the Resource Book.

AN INVITATION

You are cordially invited to a sixth birthday party in honor of NAPVI in the World Series Room of the Sheraton CentrePark Hotel, Arlington, during the evening of November 5.

In announcing the event, Conference Social Director Fay Corey said, "We know that conference-goers, even though they may be tired from traveling, will be anxious to meet new friends and to get right into the spirit of this historic meeting," she said.

The social will be a very relaxed and informal event, with conference participants getting to know each other and having a chance to glance over program packets. Light refreshments will be served and everyone will want to have a piece of NAPVI's birthday cake.

Focal point of the evening is sure to be the huge bulletin board filled with pictures of our children. Each conference participant is encouraged to bring a snapshot or photo of their child, which will be labeled and placed on the board.

"I feel certain that this first Wednesday evening get-acquainted will make firm friends of us all and we'll be eager to spend the next three days learning and participating with our friends," Mrs. Corey said.

The Exhibit Hall at the nearby Convention Center will also be open from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday Evening.

R.S.V.P. by sending in your pre-registration to Henry Hedgecock, 2895 State Rd., Rt. 49-PD-2, Blossvale, NY 13308!

ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

Parents of children with severe/profound handicaps and/or chronic illnesses are faced with extraordinary caretaking responsibilities. Such children often require intensive and skilled lifelong care. In the past, professionals were likely to recommend the parents institutionalize children who had such intensive needs. In spite of this recommendation, and with little or no community support, parents often cared for their child at home. Now, however, the professional attitude has changed. Parents are much less often encouraged to institutionalize their child and a variety of options have been developed to provide parents with support in caring for their child at home and to provide a home-like atmosphere for those children who are placed outside of their natural homes.

Some reasons for this change in attitude are as follows:

Research showed that persons with severe and profound handicaps can grow and learn; that an environment which provides for warmth, love, caring and "a normal rhythm of the day with privacy, activities and responsibilities" (Cohen & Warren, 1985) promotes such learning. Similarly, a home environment has been found to be advantageous for children with chronic illnesses.

Improved methods for teaching persons with severe handicaps were developed and professionals realized that parents could be taught the skills they would need to care for their child at home. It was also found that the parents of children who were chronically ill could learn the medical routines needed to maintain their child at home.

Through the efforts of politically active parents, advocacy groups, handicapped persons and others, legal changes were made which ensure the rights of persons with handicaps to participate to the fullest extent possible in everyday life (Cohen & Warren) and in many cases, home and community care has proven to be less expensive for taxpayers than institutional care and thus public fiscal policies have been developed to support such care.

Parents who write to the National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth (NICHCY) often request information about what services are available to help them in providing for their child with handicaps. These include questions about services that would allow them to better care for their child at home as well as questions about placements that are available outside of the home. The purpose of the April, 1986 edition of NEWS DIGEST (available at the address given above) is to provide parents and other concerned persons with information about some of the family support services and community based living arrangements that are currently available to assist families in meeting the needs of their children who are severely and profoundly handicapped and/or chronically ill.

(Ed. Note: Although the National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth encourages us to copy and share articles with our readers, space didn't permit our printing all of the material. We have chosen the above article to share and hope you will order the complete edition from them if the contents are pertinent to your situation. Write to NICHHC at 1555 N. Wilson Blvd. Suite 508, Rosslyn, VA 22209.)



PARENT AND CHILD: DEFUSING ANGER

(The following is from the Lincoln Way Special Education Resource Center serving Columbiana, Stark and Wayne counties in Ohio.)

Occasionally everyone will experience days when difficult situations develop which require an adult, parent or teacher to respond in a way that defuses anger and avoids escalation. The following pointers will be helpful to remember:

1. **AVOID PUBLIC CONFRONTATIONS.** Children are working on their image and will respond differently before a group than when alone. Use a sign, a sound or a look.
2. **LEAVE THE CHILD AN OUT.** If a child loses face, he will see that you lose face. Cornered children fight back.
3. **ASK A CHILD WHAT HE THINKS WOULD BE A FAIR DECISION.** Many children can have better suggestions for resolving conflict than you do.
4. **DON'T SCOLD AND DON'T ARGUE.** Explain problems, state rules and consider alternatives or consequences.
5. **TREAT THE CHILD WITH THE SAME RESPECT AND CONSIDERATION** that you would show an adult.
6. **AVOID CONFRONTATIONS.** "You will." "I won't." You can force a child to stop an act. It is difficult to force him to begin one. Confrontations produce guilt and resistance and reduce someone's self-esteem. Search for mutually acceptable solutions.
7. **ADMIT YOUR OWN ERRORS.** You are a model for him or her in honesty and self-evaluation.
8. **TOUCH CHILDREN WITH A GENTLE, RELAXED HAND.** Many children react violently to being "grabbed." Remember: some children do not like to be touched at all.
9. **PLAY IT COOL.** Children love to shock adults. "I hate you," is usually a temporary feeling that goes away if it isn't rewarded with attention. Tantrums only work with an audience. The same is usually true with swearing.
10. **DO NOT THREATEN** unless you intend (and can) follow through. Better yet, don't threaten. Someone will usually take you up on a dare.
11. **ESTIMATE THE CHILD'S TEMPER.** A cooling off period may do you both good.
12. **EXPLAIN APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR.** Some children are socially unaware. Provide practice if necessary.
13. **DO NOT USE ASSIGNMENTS AS PUNISHMENT.**
14. All children make mistakes and all mistakes are not sins. A **SENSE OF HUMOR GOES A LONG WAY.** Use it.
15. **DON'T TAX A CHILD'S HONESTY TOO MUCH.** Children are frightened into telling lies. Don't put a child in a position where it is easier to lie.
16. **LISTEN TO THE CHILD.** Some children do not explain themselves easily and some have learned that adults can maneuver them verbally.
17. **SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER NOT TO SEE OR HEAR.** Selective, planned ignoring permits the child to dissipate tension and stop his or her own behavior.
18. **DO NOT MAKE LONG-RANGE PUNISHMENTS.** Punishment should be immediate and short term. Depriving a child of recess for six weeks can only lead to further problems.
19. When possible, **LET THE NATURAL CONSEQUENCES OF AN ACT BE ITS OWN PUNISHMENT.**
20. **PLAY YOUR LITTLE CARDS FIRST.** Be aware that each child's ability to control his/her behavior will differ. A good teacher, parent or helper response to one child may be a poor response to another child.

Children study you. What you say with your body, expressions and tone are more powerful than what you say in words. Remember, too, sarcasm and anger may silence a child, but will rarely resolve problems.

IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING AWAY TO SCHOOL

By Marnee Loftin, Associate Psychologist
Texas School of the Blind, Elementary Department
(Reprinted from *TSB News*, Summer, 1986)

Here are a few suggestions to relieve the impact of being away from home. These are not "cure-alls" and certainly some will work better than others.

1. **PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH A CLEAR EXPECTATION OF ACTIVITIES S/HE WILL HAVE AT SCHOOL.** Each year children come to TSB expecting a horse in every bedroom. It's true that many fun activities occur, but children do attend classes and classroom activities occupy their day. The more your child's expectations correspond with the reality of the situation, the more likely s/he is to benefit from the experience.
2. **HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH HOMESICKNESS EVEN BEFORE IT OCCURS.** Most children will feel some twinge of homesickness the first time they're away from home. It's important even before they leave home that s/he realize that homesickness is "OK" and that it will pass. Many parents help their children make this transition by sending along favorite toys/stuffed animals. With older children, keeping a journal or making tapes about the day's activities is often helpful. It's important to remember that the worst cases of homesickness occur when the child feels as though no "bridge" exists between the home and school. We'll do our best to build the bridge if you'll lay the foundation.
3. **MAINTAIN REGULARLY SCHEDULED CONTACT WITH YOUR CHILD AT SCHOOL.** Every child looks forward to the scheduled phone call to their parent. Every staff person at TSB dreads those calls when parents aren't home. We all know that changes in schedules occur, but most children do not handle such changes well. Most of the staff assume that an unanswered phone call means the parents went to the store for a carton of milk. Most children, however, assume that a "dragon sat on the house." Although regular scheduled contact with you is an important aspect of adjusting to school, excessive contact may, in fact, hinder their progress at school. The child who is always expecting a visit or phone call from home is much less likely to fully participate in the many spontaneous fun activities that are available at school. It's impossible to determine what level of contact from home is "too much" for all children.
4. **HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP PERSONAL GOALS THAT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING SCHOOL.** Many opportunities for learning are available at school. The children who seem to benefit the most are those who have a clear idea of something they would like to learn. If you can help them develop this goal before they leave home, your child is one step ahead.
5. **KEEP THE NEWS FROM HOME CHEERFUL.** Letters about pets who refuse to eat, phone calls from crying baby brothers, etc. can send even the happiest child into the doldrums. It's important that your child realize that s/he has not "lost their place" in the family, but excessive reminders of what their absence means can be devastating.

The following friends of NAPVI are 1986 contributors as of newsletter deadline time. We are most grateful to them and invite any who are not listed to send in their contributions so that we can truly say that our membership stands behind NAPVI 100 percent!

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Dr. Richard Umsted | Illinois | Anthony Civitella Family | Pennsylvania |
| Mr. and Mrs. Gordon England | Texas | Mrs. Elizabeth Williams | Maryland |
| Barbara Mattson | South Carolina | Mildred C. Ferrell | Texas |
| Richard and Maxine Horn | Pennsylvania | Barbara Schick | New York |
| Free Library of Philadelphia | Pennsylvania | Mary J. Hahn | California |
| James and Theresa Price | Pennsylvania | Richard Enders | New York |
| Henry and Gale Hedgecock | South Carolina | Peter and Pamela Crane | New Jersey |
| Thomson and Jeanne Leiper | Pennsylvania | American Foundation for the Blind | New York |
| Irma Maas | Connecticut | Sandra Sutor | California |
| Henry and Mary Lou Wilkinson | Arkansas | Cherie Vellema | California |
| Howard and Sara Nixon | Washington | Paul and Shela Cobb | Texas |
| Herman and Della Hartman | Texas | Daniel and Mary Lou Edgar | Iowa |
| Dr. Jane Erin | Texas | Charles Raeke | Texas |
| Marjorie E. Ward | Ohio | Robert Munroe | Texas |
| Sarabeth Watson | Minnesota | Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Sledge | Mississippi |
| Dr. Lena Peck | Texas | Mollie O'Leary | Texas |
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| Mr. and Mrs. T. Brennan | California | Janie Parr | Kansas |
| Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Crisafulli | New York | Diane Moshenrose | California |
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| Elaine Moses | Texas | Elizabeth Mallett | New York |
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| Jim and Eleanor Campbell | Pennsylvania | Marcia Golde | Illinois |
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| Patrick and Jacqueline Carroll | New York | Fred Sinclair | California |
| Jeri Hensley | Oklahoma | Jean Bohs | Missouri |
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| Emogene B. Johnston | Washington | Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Leonard | Texas |
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| Lawrence and Anna Mae Frattini | Illinois | Jean Mosenfelder | California |
| Dr. Grace Napier | Colorado | Fay and Larry Corey | Pennsylvania |
| Mary Anne Gebhardt | New York | Gail and Arturo Granados | Connecticut |
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| A. F. Lombard, Jr. | Louisiana | Barbara Newman | Illinois |
| Steven M. DeRosa | Texas | Peter and Nancy Hetgelakis | Pennsylvania |
| Bob and Sharon Bentzen | California | Dr. & Mrs. Richard Welsh | Maryland |
| Colorado School f/t Deaf & Blind | Colorado | Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mattock | New Hampshire |
| Ann Cruz | California | Paul C. Reinert | Illinois |
| Margery Quackenbush | California | Kadane | Colorado |
| Herman Hudson | Georgia | | |

MEMBERSHIP IN NAPVI

NAPVI provides its members with support, program information and assistance in improving services, and organizing parent groups. The different categories of membership are:

PARENTS AND FAMILIES (voting members, one vote per membership).

With this membership you receive our quarterly newsletter, legislative alerts, information sharing opportunities, referral to needed services, reduced publication rates, contact with other parents and families and a collective voice. **DUES: \$5.00/year**

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND AGENCIES. Federal, State and Local (non-voting membership).

This membership will receive our quarterly newsletter and related information. **DUES: \$15.00/year**

ASSOCIATE (non-voting member)

This membership category is for individuals interested in supporting the work of NAPVI. **DUES: \$3.00/year**

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS

In addition to regular memberships there are contributing memberships available. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service information and assistance to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

SUPPORTING \$50-200

SPONSORING \$200-1,000

PATRON over \$1,000

Contributing members will receive recognition for their tax deductible donation to NAPVI.

You can also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents by spreading word of its existence to people who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments, and by letting us know what your needs are.

To join NAPVI or renew your membership for 1985, complete the following application, cut on the dotted line and return with your check to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

The type of membership I am applying for is:

☐ Parents and Families (\$5.00/year)

☐ Parent groups, community groups or agencies (\$15.00/year)

☐ Associate (non-voting; \$3.00/year)

This is a renewal (check one): ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. () _____

Signature

THIRD QUARTER - 1986

To order the following publications, complete the following order form, cut on the dotted line and return, with your check to:

NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, Texas 78718

☐ TAKE CHARGE: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$5.50)

☐ HOW TO PACK 'EM IN: A GUIDE FOR PARENT WORKSHOPS (\$3.00)

☐ A GUIDE TO LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (\$9.50)

☐ PARENTS TO THE RESCUE (\$2.00)

☐ YOUR CHILD'S INFORMATION JOURNAL (\$5.00)

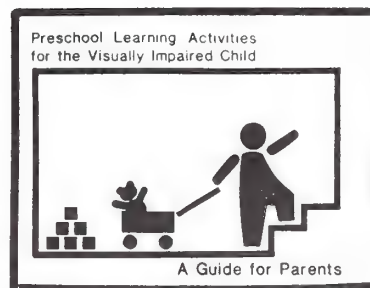
☐ PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES (\$7.00)

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order for

Name and mailing address: _____

Signature _____

PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES for the Visually Impaired Child - A Guide for Parents



This book is all about preschoolers and parents having fun together. The fact that the child *learns* along with it is an added bonus! Produced several years ago by the Illinois Department of Education, **PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILD** is being made available once again to parents by NAPVI. In a bound 91-page, illustrated volume, the book focuses on activities and games to help children learn about themselves - and others.

"The key word to helping blind children learn is "active." The games and activities in this book will help parents keep their visually impaired child active during those formative preschool years... and parents should enjoy doing many of the familiar games described in PRESCHOOL LEARNING ACTIVITIES.

— Lee W. Robinson, NAPVI Executive Director



- support
- information
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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after September 1 becoming 1987 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming—check the bottom line!

“WHY BELONG TO A PARENT GROUP?” AN ESSAY CONTEST IN CONJUNCTION WITH NAPVI’S FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Title: “Why Belong to A Parent Group?”

Prizes: A \$100 savings bond in each of the following three categories: Parent, Professional, Child (Age 18 or under). Prizes will be awarded at the NAPVI Conference for Parents and Professionals in Arlington, TX November 5-8, 1986. (Winners need not be present!)

Rules: Suggested length, approximately 500 words, in type, braille or handwritten form. All entries must be signed.
All essays become the property of NAPVI; No essay will be returned to the author. NAPVI reserves the right to read any/all essays at the National Conference and/or to print any/all essays in the newsletter, brochures, etc. No NAPVI board member, present or past, is eligible.

Deadline: Must be postmarked NO LATER than October 20, 1986.

Submit to: Ms. Kate Aldrich, 409 E. 22nd Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

Judges: Ms. Alrich, Gabriele Hass of the Blind Children’s Learning Center, Orange County, CA and Nancy Chapman of Lancaster, PA, the parent of a 3½-year-old multihandicapped visually impaired child.

YOU'VE GOT OUR NUMBER!

Toll-free numbers at NAPVI are:

1-800-225-0227 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) (U.S.); 1-800-222-1537 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) (in Texas). NAPVI's main telephone number is 512-323-5710.

Our office manager is Denise Bair, a true Texan with a flair for organization and a desire to get every task done quickly and well. She is the mother of three children, ranging in age from 7 to 2, so she relates well to the parental concerns of the NAPVI membership.



SECTION 504 ACTION URGENTLY NEEDED

NAPVI is supporting legislation which would overturn the Supreme Court's 1984 *Grove City College v. Bell* decision.

In *Grove City*, the court ruled that only the specific program or activity of an institution which receives federal funds, not the entire institution, is required to comply with certain federal civil rights laws.

The ruling diluted the scope and coverage of four major civil rights laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the only federal civil rights law which protects people with disabilities, including those who are visually impaired, against discrimination.

The legislation which would overturn the decision is the Civil Rights Restoration Act. It redefines "program or activity" to include the entire institution or organization when any part of it receives federal funds.

Said Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass) who introduced the bill in the Senate: "The *Grove City College* decision has left those with disabilities in our Society without recourse for discriminatory actions which deny them their livelihood."

Ted Kennedy, Jr., in hearings before the committee on Labor and Human Resources, chaired by his father, testified in support of the act. (For copies of his testimony, as well as that of others, write to the NAPVI office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.)

Kennedy, who had cancer when he was 12, spoke on behalf of 64 organizations representing people with disabilities, including NAPVI. He said the *Grove City* decision "hopelessly obstructs the path" to equality for disabled Americans.

Noting that Congressional action on the bill is expected sometime in July, Liz Savage of the Epilepsy Foundation of America and a speaker at NAPVI's 1986 Convention, urges fellow NAPVI members to become familiar with the Civil Rights Restoration Act and to write letters and telephone their Congressmen and Senators in support of restoring full Section 504 powers immediately.

"In the past, when the disability community has expressed its spontaneous rage, it has been awesome. People stopped and listened. Remember, every member of Congress counts letters and phone calls!

"This is the biggest battle we, the disability community, have faced yet. We are only going to win it if we all work together. Your letters and calls will make a big difference," she said. (See Terry Leo's article on page 4.)

PROBLEM SOLVING: AN OPPORTUNITY AT VALLEY FORGE

NAPVI will offer a unique roll-up-your-sleeves, let's-figure-this-out-together opportunity this summer when it plays host to approximately 150 parent group leaders at Valley Forge, near Philadelphia, PA.

Billed as a "Hands-On Leadership Training Program for Parents," the August 7-9 event will begin with a Friday evening keynote address by Dr. Mae Davidow, who taught at Overbrook School for the Blind for 35 years and who is a recognized expert on teaching the abacus and in teaching social skills to the visually impaired child. A get-acquainted social will follow.

Sessions on Saturday will include "Designing the Delivery System," "Organizational Skills: The Life of a Group" and "Accessing the System for Your Child."

Saturday presenters will include Dr. Alana Zambone, national consultant in early childhood at AFB; Gail Granados, member-at-large of the NAPVI Board of Directors and president of Connecticut Parents Association; Kate Aldrich, Board Member, Pacific States; Dr. Kay Ferrell, professor, Teacher's College, Columbia University.

Dr. Ferrell will also lead a wrap-up session on Sunday. During that presentation a unique panel of teenagers will be featured.

Norma Lucas, NAPVI Region II board member (mid-Atlantic States), is conference coordinator.

Registration for the Conference, to be at the Hilton/Valley Forge, is \$50 per NAPVI member, \$80 per NAPVI member couple; \$60 per non-member parent; \$60 per NAPVI member professional and \$70 per non-member professional. The NAPVI rate at the hotel is \$62 single/double occupancy and participants should make their own lodging arrangements with the hotel.

No exhibits are planned during the workshop; however, if you have material you wish to distribute, you may send it to the Valley Forge/Hilton in care of NAPVI and we will place it on an unattended table.

A similar seminar is planned for February, 1988 on the West Coast as NAPVI will be one of the three affiliate groups convening as a part of the AFB-Foundation for the Junior Blind Seminar.

Eileen Hudson, program committee chairperson, encouraged parent group leaders, especially in the central portion of the U.S., to plan to attend one or the other of these seminars.

"The friendships and the networking possibilities which began at the national conference in Arlington, Texas last fall are certain to be widened through these two unique opportunities," she said.

For more information and pre-registration information, contact the NAPVI national/office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718, telephone 512/323-5710.

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SHOPPING BAG

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about their item with the NAPVI membership. This column highlights new, unique, free and/or inexpensive items for the visually impaired. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion. NAPVI accepts paid advertising for AWARENESS. Contact our national office for a rate card.

The Official Harvard Student Bartending Course is available in a hardcover braille edition that teaches you how to make and remember hundreds of popular drinks, how to set up for a party, etc. for \$28. Order from the National Braille Press, Inc., 88 St. Stephen Street, Boston, MA 02115 or call 617-266-6160 and charge it with a major credit card.

Brailables, a series of children's books which are reasonably priced and unique in that they use braille to draw, is being published by the Guild for the Blind in Chicago. Figures and diagrams play an important role in learning math, geometry and map-reading. This series encourages drawing, looking at illustrations and using braille creatively. Thus, braille can be shared through pictures that are recognizable by both blind and sighted. The series is divided into three levels: the Teddy Bear Series for beginners; the Bunny Series for children with more reading experience and the Owl Series for older children. For information and a listing of books, contact Marie Porter at the Guild for the Blind, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601 or call 312-236-8569.

Kindercize, a "living room" exercise program designed as a valuable learning vehicle for the development of gross motor skills, better balance, coordination, counting skills, perception of music, motion and rhythm, is available from Kindercize, P.O. Box 360934, Milpitas, CA 95035. Diana Mihalakis, a mother of three (one is a blind 2 year old) and Marlene Braxton, a certified aerobics instructor and mother of two, formulated this unique exercise program. The kindercize book and cassette tape (used together) are \$22. A 17-minute demonstration video tape of Kindercize on VHS is available for \$24. A \$10 rental fee will be refunded on all returned videotapes.

Soft Side Carry Case, specifically designed to hold the Perkins brailler, is made from a lightweight water-resilient material, has a dual, heavy-weight zipper and opens on three sides to permit ease in packing the brailler. Shoulder strap permits hands-free carrying. Also new from Howe Press is a print copy holder which attaches to the handle of the Perkins brailler and accommodates printed material which is being transcribed into braille and a Dymo tape holder that clips to the brailler to emboss braille without the necessity of using a slate and stylus. Write to Howe Press, Perkins School for the Blind, 175 N. Beacon St., Watertown, MA 02172-2790 or call 617-924-3490 for price and ordering information.

A copy of the **Constitution** in braille is available free, thanks to a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities, from the National Braille Press, 88 St. Stephen Street, Boston, MA 02115, or call 617-266-6160.

ON CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP AGENDAS

April 25, 1987 Spring Family Get Together was held by the Minnesota Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired. Although it has already been held, we wanted to mention some "neat" things on the agenda, like "zoo critters" featuring live iguana, lop-eared rabbit and a snake, as well as a family picnic, music experiences for the children and a meeting about family communication, role changes, etc. for the adults. Wish we coulda' all gone!

June 26 Vision Resource Conference for Educators and Parents, Quality Inn/Chicago, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Luncheon included. For more information, contact Mary Zabelski, president, Illinois Parents of the Visually Impaired, 312-774-4742.

July 9-11 The Southwest Conference of AER (Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired) is holding a regional conference at the New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped in Alamogordo. Theme will be "Focus on Fitness—Appraising, Exploring, Reshaping." Contact Alicia McAninch, NM School for the VH, 1900 North White Sands Blvd., Alamogordo, NM 88310 (505-437-3505).

July 17-19 The Connecticut Chapter of NOAH (National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation) is sponsoring a national conference at the Hartford Marriott in Farmington, CT. Contact Chris and Carole Sears, 16 Valley View Road, Simsbury, CT 06089.

August 7-9, "A Hands-On Parent Group Leadership Training Seminar" sponsored by NAPVI at the Hilton Inn/Valley Forge (near Philadelphia) for 100-150 participants selected on a first come, first served basis. See page 1 for separate article.

September 7-11 Tennessee Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired will host a combination Conference-Retreat for families on the campus of the Tennessee School for the Blind near Nashville. Contact Susan Womack, president, TAPVI, 615-865-5244 (after 2:30 p.m., please).

October 15-17 Third Annual International Conference, titled "Computer Technology/Special Education/Rehabilitation," at California State University, Northridge. An experimental, computer controlled omni-directional wheelchair will be demonstrated. Contact Dr. Harry J. Murphy, CSUN Office of Disabled Student Services, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330, telephone 818-885-2578.

October 14-17 "Visual Horizons," The Sixth Canadian Interdisciplinary Conference on the Visually Impaired Child, Halifax, Nova Scotia. To be placed on the conference mailing list, write SCICVIC, P.O. Box 8475, Halifax, NS, Canada B3K 5M2.

AWARENESS is a quarterly publication of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc., a nonprofit organization with offices at 7530 North Lamar, Suite 106, Austin, TX 78752. Mailing address is P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. **AWARENESS** is entered as second-class matter at Austin, Texas.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Items intended for publication should be sent to **AWARENESS**, P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR 72322. Materials may be submitted in handwriting, type or on cassette and must be signed. **Deadline for 3rd Quarter, 1987: August 1, 1987.** All items submitted become the property of NAPVI and will not be returned. We reserve the right to edit.

Editor Mary Lou Wilkinson
Assistant Editor Keitha Robinson
Advertising Director Lee Robinson

Staying On Task For Our Children

EARLY YEARS COMMITTEE URGES ADVOCACY

Members of the Early Years Advisory Committee have recommended to the American Foundation for the Blind that priority be given to meet the need for technical assistance and advocacy to assure involvement by vision professionals and families with infants and toddlers who have visual impairments regarding the implementation of P.L. 99-457 (the Early Childhood Amendments of 1986).

Specific recommendations include:

1. Determining and adopting eligibility criteria and definitions for provision of services to infants and toddlers who may be at risk of developmental delay due to a visual impairment;
2. Developing screening and assessment techniques and instruments for use with infants and toddlers suspected of, or identified as having a visual impairment;
3. Determining and describing service delivery options and best practices for meeting the needs of infants and toddlers by overcoming current limitations of knowledge and skills;
4. Extending and expanding specialized personnel preparation and training of other service providers (beyond education) and parents to work with infants and toddlers with visual impairments and blindness.

Two primary activities were recommended to AFB for implementation: 1) the development and dissemination of a variety of print materials for parents, for those in the health and education communities, for daycare personnel, for policy makers, for related service providers and for those of professional preparation coursework. Topics of these materials will include defining and describing effective intervention services; information and best practices and supporting parents, among others. 2) Development of a pilot mentorship program for special educators to provide ongoing support in the vision field for service providers to assure that the development of competence is an ongoing process. This support is particularly necessary for those who are new to the profession because of the isolation they may experience while serving this low prevalence population.

EARLY CHILDHOOD (P.L. 99-457) UPDATE

By Diana Cutbertson, NAPVI Board Member, Region I

On May 11-12 leaders from throughout the national disability community convened in Washington, D.C. for a conference on "Disability Policy: The State of the Nation," sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Exceptional Children and Youth, University of Maryland.

Mrs. Madeleine Will, assistant secretary of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services of the U.S. Department of Education, opened the conference. Sen. Tom Harkin, chairman of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on the Handicapped, also spoke about disability issues before the current Congress. Following these speakers small-group sessions were conducted to explore various aspects on disability, including deinstitutionalization and community living; housing, rehabilitation; future prospects; P.L. 94-142 and legal issues and the courts.

One area I found of special concern was the discussion on implementation of the early intervention program mandated by the 1986 Education of All Handicapped Children Amendments, led by Lani Florian, legislative aide to Sen. Lowell Weicker. She stated that the intent of the law is to strengthen the family's ability to nurture their own child and that early intervention has been proven cost effective, as it increases the potential and opportunities for our children with disabilities.

Dr. Merle McPherson, director of the Division of Maternal and Child Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, then posed four questions concerning this legislation: Are we ready to implement this new law; is there a need; do we know how to run such early intervention programs; is the service delivery system in place to run such programs and do we have the needed resources to run such programs? Answering "yes" to each question, she noted, however, that there is still a need to build up family centered, community based services. She stated that we continue to spend over \$3 billion each year on institutional care and we spend a great deal of additional money on end stage treatments, but not enough on the early intervention which may prevent institutionalization.

Another related concern is that this law does not provide for ongoing medical care beyond that required for diagnosis and evaluation. Twenty percent of all children have no health care coverage currently. We need to revamp our Medicaid system and work with private insurers to obtain adequate coverage, particularly since many of our children have ongoing medical needs which are often outside our insurance contracts.

Finally, Dr. McPherson identified the enormous need to train professionals working in the field to work in partnership with families, respecting the family's ability to nurture their children. Personnel to be trained include those who work in day-care centers and respite care staff.

To date letters from 43 governors have been received indicating their wish to participate in the Title I (Handicapped Infant and Toddler) and Title II (Handicapped Children, Ages 3 to 5) programs. It is important to note that the \$50 million appropriated for these programs this year will help strengthen and build existing service systems, not provide direct service money, Joseph Ballard, associate director for Government Relations, Council for Exceptional Children, commented. Proposed regulation will be out for public comment by the end of June.

Dr. Kathleen Huebner, assistant director of national consultants, American Foundation for the Blind, raised the concern that blind and visually impaired children are not fully counted. Therefore, their needs and corresponding resources and training personnel are not being planned for.

Sen. Lowell Weicker, a parent of a child with disabilities who is ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on the Handicapped and spokesperson on behalf of all persons with disabilities, challenged all advocates of children to "roll up our sleeves and demand that our elected officials respond to the legitimate right of all persons to participate fully in their communities. One measure of the strength of our nation is how we help those who need our special care," Sen. Weicker said.

PARENT FORUM

There is some movement within the field of special education to make the regular classroom synonymous with the "least restrictive environment" as indicated in P.L. 94-142. NAPVI has always been committed to the availability of a continuum of services (state schools, special day classes, resource room, regular class) as being vital to obtaining appropriate services for our children. A blind child in a regular classroom with poor braille skills may be far more restricted than in a resource room. The most appropriate placement is the least restrictive environment.

NAPVI invites your comments on this issue for publication in future issues. If you'd like to write us and keep your name confidential, tell us so; however, all submitted material must be signed when we receive it.

YOUR LETTER DOES COUNT!

By Terry Leo, Teacher for the Visually Impaired, Garland, TX

Most Americans are utterly unaware of the significance which elected officials attach to even one letter. Your letters do make a difference. Even one letter can influence a lawmaker's note on a bill.

Timing is an important factor in letter writing. Often a flood of mail is received just before a bill comes to a vote, but a single intelligent letter can be very influential months before when a Congressman is still forming his opinions.

Try to follow these simple rules when writing letters:

1. Identify yourself as a member of NAPVI as a means of increasing your influence.
2. Be friendly, courteous and refrain from threats or accusations.
3. Produce a neatly typed or written letter that is easy to read.
4. Make it a brief letter, not exceeding two pages handwritten or one page typed.
5. Know your subject by clearly expressing why you are for or against a bill (try to include name and/or numbers of the bill).
6. Mention specific arguments rather than generalities.
7. Avoid writing form letters or letters copied from "sample" letters.
8. If you want a reply, ask for it and, if no reply is necessary, indicate it.
9. Write often, as two or three letters per month are not too many.
10. Keep writing even if the replies aren't always satisfying.
11. And, most importantly, when your official votes "right," send him a thank you.

Address your letters as follows:

The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
Dear Senator _____:

or

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
Dear Representative _____:

12. Send a Western Union "Personal Opinion Message" (POM) wire to your senators, congressmen, state legislators or any other elected officials. Your message has the impact of a telegram. You may send a 20-word message for \$4.45, with each additional 20 words costing \$2. To send a POM, call Western Union's toll-free number (1-800-325-6000). They will charge it to your telephone bill.
13. To contact the office of your senator or congressman office directly, telephone the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121.
14. To obtain information on the status of particular legislation in the House or Senate, telephone the Legislative Information Office at 202-225-1772.
15. To listen to recorded messages on the latest legislative activity, telephone 202-224-8541 for Senate Democrats; 202-224-8601 for Senate Republicans; 202-225-7400 for House Democrats; 202-225-7430 for House Republicans.
16. To obtain copies of pending legislation in the U.S. Senate, write the Senate Documents Room, Senate Hart Building, Rm. B-04, Washington, D.C. 20510, 202-224-7860; or in the House, write House Documents Room, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515; 202-225-3456.
17. To express your personal opinions on any issue to the White House, call the White House Comment Line at 202-456-7639 or write a letter to:
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
Dear Mr. President:
18. Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper to express your opinions.

19. For status of legislation at the White House waiting action (no positions given on legislation pending before Congress)—202-456-2226.

(Source: Candidates' Biblical Scoreboard)

GROUP PRIORITIZES EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

A newly formed group of 20 parents of visually impaired children in a four-county area of Ohio are hoping to organize a preschool for VI children.

Parents Helping Visually Impaired People (PHVIP) encompasses the counties of Trumbull, Mahoning, Ashtabula and Columbiana, according to NAPVI Board Member Norma Lucas, who is a spokesperson for the group.

Pam Davies, mother of 11-month-old Clint, is chairperson of the early childhood project. Members of the group were asked to sit on a panel with agency personnel exploring possibilities of Child Find. The group hopes to delete duplication of services and connect agencies and parents together, so that new parents of a special needs child may get information quickly.

Mrs. Lucas was instrumental in starting the Special Needs Information Center (SNIC), a parent resource office run by parents. SNIC address is P.O. Box 87, Girard, OH 44420, 216-545-2837. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

SNIC and a similar direction center in Akron, the Parent Coalition for Parents with Disabilities are the only two "grass roots" information centers not affiliated with an agency or organization in the state. The Akron Center is located at 400 Elbon Avenue, Akron, OH 44306, 216-724-1111.

Recently the parents in the area were instrumental in preventing the passage of Ohio Bill 171, which would have drastically cut funding for special education. A massive letter writing/phone calling campaign led to defeat of the measure, according to Mrs. Lucas.

REPLICATION IDEAS THAT WORK

Several years ago, after the P.T.A. organization at the Missouri School for the Blind fell by the wayside, New Superintendent Louis Tutt set up a unique, 15-member Parent Advisory Council (PAC) at the school.

The role of a PAC member is to ask the superintendent about all phases of programs at the school, particularly about its educational progress. Supt. Tutt's role is to be an "accountability person." The dialogue between him and this parent council, which meets every two months and seats parents with children at all educational levels and with additional handicaps as well, is both two-way and continuous.

"In fact, our PAC just had a meeting yesterday. We usually come in from across the state for morning meetings, break for lunch at the school and then finish up in the afternoon," he said.

PAC members serve a four-year term and a chairperson, co-chairperson and secretary are elected from the PAC body. The members publish a newsletter (titled "PACMAN!") which goes out to all MSB parents immediately after each meeting.

"It's an active council. Usually at each meeting various staff members speak to the group about such things as SSI, mental health and other parental concerns. As an advisory council, they are concerned with giving and sharing information, both to me and to their fellow parents. (A separate Room Mothers Club at the school becomes involved in direct projects for the students.)

"They're a good group—one recognized officially by the Missouri State Board of Education as a state committee," Supt. Tutt said.

NAPVI became aware of this group because each year Mr. Tutt provides every member of his PAC with an AWARENESS newsletter.

For more information about this unique group, contact Mr. Tutt, Missouri School for the Blind, 3815 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110, 314-776-4320.

ELECTION SLATE NAMED

The following NAPVI members have been nominated as part of a slate of officers for by-mail balloting in September. Those nominated include Eileen Hudson, Beloit, WI, president; Gail Granados, Norwich, CT, vice president; Jeanie Flack, Harbor City, CA, secretary and Henry Hedgecock, Blossvale, NY, treasurer.

The NAPVI bylaws require that each nominee have served at least one year previously on the NAPVI Board of Directors.

In addition, two regional representatives will be elected to the Board from Region I, encompassing the far northeastern states currently served by Diana Cuthbertson of Westfield, NJ and board member-at-large, a position currently filled by Mrs. Granados. (See separate article on this page).

Only parent/family members (one per household) will vote in the election. Those voting have the opportunity to write in their own preference, using the criteria set forth in the bylaws and published in the First Quarter, 1987 edition of **AWARENESS**.

Biographical data follows.

Eileen Hudson served on the original ad hoc committee which formed NAPVI and also served a term as Region III (Midwestern States) Board Member before assuming her present position as vice president. Her principal duty has been that of program chairman; in addition she serves on the Affiliations Committee, the Fund Raising Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee. Mrs. Hudson, who has macular degeneration herself, is the mother of two visually impaired college students, Brian and Michelle. She served for many years on various Concerned Parents Group of Wisconsin School for the Blind committees and often serves as a volunteer advocate for parents of handicapped children. She and her husband, Keith, have also been foster parents to many children.

Gail Granados is founder and current president of the Connecticut Parents Association and has often been called upon to use her strong organizational skills by such groups as the New England Regional Seminar for Parents of Preschool Visually Handicapped Children and others along the Eastern Seaboard. She is a member of the NAPVI Program Committee.... She and her husband, Arturo, are parents of a teenaged son, Scott, who has retinal blastoma. Mrs. Granados is part of a banking management team.

Jeanie Flack served as a member of the original ad hoc committee which found NAPVI and represented the western/far southwestern states on the Board. She is currently chairman of the Affiliations Committee. A native of Montana, she was instrumental in helping parent groups there and in Utah to organize before moving with her family to Los Angeles. Recently she has worked as a trainee with the Los Angeles City Schools assisting children with many different disabilities. A running enthusiast who was also a presenter on Recreation at the first NAPVI conference last fall, Mrs. Flack is currently in training with her two visually impaired teenaged sons for the Tom Sullivan Run; they ran in the Los Angeles marathon as well.

Henry Hedgecock, also a member of the original ad hoc committee, has served as the NAPVI treasurer since 1979, establishing sound fiscal policies and procedures. His duties also include membership in the Fund Raising Committee and the Program Committee. He has been state vice president and president of the South Carolina Coalition for Handicapped Persons and member of the Early Years Advisory Committees of the American Foundation for the Blind. He and his wife, Gale, have been foster parents to approximately 70 children. Their son, Craig, is a totally blind student at a local high school and a member of its championship wrestling team.

BOARD POSITIONS TO BE FILLED

Annual three-year term elections to the NAPVI Board of Directors in September will be in Region I (New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Maine and Rhode Island and in the member-at-large position.

Region I is now represented by Diana Cuthbertson of Westfield, NJ and the current member-at-large is Gail Granados of Connecticut.

Those members interested should secure a Nominee Fact Sheet from Nominations Committee Chairperson Diana Cuthbertson, 630 Fairmont Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090, 201-654-4333 and return it **no later than July 15, 1987**.

The fact sheet should be accompanied by three letters of reference (including one from a professional source, such as a teacher, principal, clergyman, civic or charitable leader or medical contact).

Nominees for the election will receive notification from the committee informing them of their nomination, pending interview with the current board member from the region involved and the necessity to submit a letter of intent to serve on the board, if elected.

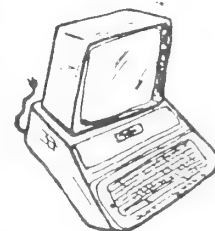
Refer to the First Quarter, 1987 edition of **AWARENESS** for the criteria of eligibility or contact the national office (toll free 1-800-225-0227/994610) or Diana Cuthbertson.

Ballots will be mailed to all voting members (parent/family) for the member-at-large position. Voting members in Region I will also vote for that position.

HI-TECH TALK

The Second Beginner's Guide to Personal Computers for the Blind, completely revised

(new users will need the original as well), contains all new materials including comparative reviews of the six most popular screen reading programs for the IBM PC, seven speech programs for the Apple and the most effective program for the Commodore 64 talking computer plus information about the Sensible Speller, magazine listings, etc. Print copies are \$11 (plus \$3 for postage) and braille or cassette copies are \$11 (shipped "free matter for the blind"). Write to National Braille Press, Inc., 88 St. Stephen St., Boston, MA 02115 for more information.



Kidsview Software enlarges computer characters instantly while closely preserving the normal operation of the computer. The entire contents of the regular screen are presented in the original order so that continuity of the text is maintained. The regular screen can be accessed at any time. Also available is Kidsword, a large character word processor especially designed to be easy enough for children, but suitable for more advanced applications such as business or college. They are available for use now with the Commodore 64, 64C and 128 and will be available for Apple and IBM computers in the coming months. Write to Kidsview Software, Inc., P.O. Box 98, Warner, NH 03278 or contact Julie Griffiths at 603-927-4428 for more information.

Copies of the professional papers presented at the Second Annual Conference, "Computer Technology/Special Education/Rehabilitation," held last Fall at California State University/Northridge, are now available at \$14.95 (CA residents enclose \$15.92) from CSU Foundation/Northridge, CSUN Office of Disabled Student Services, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330. The 331-page publication focuses on 25 selected presentations, including a keynote address by I. Keith Austin of the IBM Office of Products for the Disabled.

ADVERTISING RATE CARD AVAILABLE

NAPVI is now accepting advertising to **AWARENESS** and a rate card is available to any company or individual producing goods or services of interest to families of visually impaired and blind children.

Such advertising is to be limited to a certain block within the publication and clearly marked "advertising," as NAPVI does not endorse products as a part of its services. NAPVI reserves the right of editorial discretion in acceptance of advertising.

Advertising deadline for the Third Quarter, 1987 edition of **AWARENESS** is July 15. For information regarding rates, please contact the advertising director, NAPVI/National Office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718 or telephone toll free 1-800-225-0227 (wait for tone, then dial 994610). Texas residents dial toll-free 1-800-222-1537 (wait for tone, then dial 994610).

"SEASONED" STUDENTS SOUGHT!

We're asking the "old hats" (that's you if you are finishing at least your first year of college) to share your thoughts about skills, services, "things" that made (or would have made) you independent when you ventured off from home to the campus.

Time is getting close for some younger blind or visually impaired students to "follow in your footsteps" and your expertise would be appreciated.

Send your thoughts (print, braille or cassette) and, thanks for taking the time. Send to **AWARENESS**, P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR 72322.

Note to Moms: College kids are as bad about procrastinating as we are. Help some other parents and their kids by encouraging yours to write us today! Thanks.

RESOURCES OF INTEREST TO YOU

Let's Play To Grow is a nationwide organization dedicated to providing recreational opportunities (training, assistance, play guides) for handicapped children and their families as a unit. **Let's Play to Grow** was founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver through her involvement with the Special Olympics. Local groups are formed by any number of families who wish to get together regularly for "shared play." Interested persons may contact Linda Schulz or Lisa Morris at 202-393-1250.

Careers and the Handicapped is a new magazine listing jobs for disabled persons. The list of employment opportunities with the magazine's advertisers is published in braille. For more information, contact **Careers and the Handicapped**, 44 Broadway, Greenlawn, NY 11740.

Creating Careers for Blind People: Rehabilitation and Technology, written by Irving Dickman, is available from Public Affairs Pamphlets of New York. The pamphlet traces the influence of technology on career opportunities for visually impaired people. Cost: \$1 per copy. For information on how to order, contact: Public Affairs Pamphlets, 381 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.

Vocational Rehabilitation and You, a videotape that shows the important part a vocational rehabilitation counselor can take in transitional planning and helping secondary students and young adults with handicaps to obtain and maintain employment is available for rent (\$10 a month) or purchase (\$35) from PACER (Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights), 4826 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

REQUESTLINE: CAN YOU HELP?

Anita Miller writes that her daughter, Lori, age 11, is the first blind student to be mainstreamed in her local public school. Lori plays the piano and is learning to play the flute in the band. She would like brailled popular music for piano and needs her flute music brailled as well. Any ideas? Write to Anita at 1305 Rivercrest Drive, Warsaw, IN 46580. (Ed. Note: Share with us, too, so we can share with our readers. On a personal note, how about the French horn?)

AT HOME IN YOUR KITCHEN

(from **Sight Lines**, newsletter of the Center for the Partially Sighted)

Many partially sighted people find it difficult to prepare food to locate the ingredients and cooking tools. In addition, sharp knives, breakable glass and hot stoves can be hazardous. Here are some inexpensive, practical solutions to help you get started on making your kitchen an easier place to cook.

LIGHTING AND COLOR CONTRAST. Color contrast and lighting are as important in the kitchen as they are in any other room. Good lighting and reduced glare will help you use your remaining vision for kitchen tasks. High contrast in the colors you choose for the tools and decor in your kitchen will make it easier to find the things you need.

ORGANIZING. The key to locating items is organization. Grouping things into categories and sorting them systematically makes finding them easier. For example, on your shelves, put all the fruits on the left, vegetables on the right and cans of fish in the center...or categorize by shelves. In cupboards, keep the things most often used on the shelves that are the easiest for you to get to. Whatever system you select, the key to its success is to be **consistent**.

The same organization ideas work in the refrigerator. Organize your refrigerated foods by shelves, drawers or by left and right.

The simplest solution to jumbled silverware is to use a silverware tray. Pots and pans can be identified by location or by different color-striped tape on the handles.

FINDING THINGS IN YOUR KITCHEN. Use all of your senses to help you identify things in the kitchen. Weight, shape, sound, smell and size can all help. For example, a box of cereal and a box of detergent may be the same size and shape. The detergent is much heavier, has a different odor and has a different sound if you shake the two boxes. A consistent labeling system will also help you find things.

LABELING IN THE KITCHEN. Many items used in the kitchen are labeled in a way that is difficult for partially sighted people to read. It may be necessary to re-label the things you bring home from the market so they are easier to find.

Blank stick-on labels are available in stationery stores. You may write the name of the product on the label in large, bold letters. Stick the labels on cans, bottles, boxes, plastic bags, freezer containers—just about anything. With a visual aid they can be easier to read.

Rubber bands can be used on cans. For example, vegetables have one rubber band around the can, fruits have two. You can develop the rubber band code easiest for you to remember.

Contrasting pieces of tape on the top of cans or frozen vegetable boxes can be used. For example, yellow on corn, green on peas, red on beets.

HI MARKS is a gel that, when dry, leaves a bright orange raised mark. It can be used to underline the identifying word on labels. A partially sighted person can then use visual aids to read only the most important information.

Loeb labels are small plastic replicas of foods that are attached to cans with an elastic band.

PIGTAILS AND BALLET SHOES

By Linda R. Machado, president
South Florida Parents of the Visually Impaired

It was warm and pleasant to recall the exuberant wellness I felt during my pregnancy with Eric. Even though the pregnancy was quite unexpected, my husband and I were thrilled with the new feelings we shared. United by the focus of all our attention on the preparations we thought were absolutely necessary or this child would just simply refuse to be born, we abandoned ourselves to the excitement of purchasing miniature clothing, customized baby furniture and anything else that even remotely looked like a baby item.

It was these wonderful feelings and memories that bathed me like sunlight when I gazed breathlessly at my newborn god-child, Jessica. She was beautiful and perfect in every way. Her mother proudly swaddled her and Jessica curled up against her breast oblivious to the delirium in the room, common with the birth of the first grandchild in a latin family.

I ached to love and be needed in that way again. My son, Eric, was already three years old and well on his way to being "a b-i-g boy." He didn't need me anymore like he had as a baby. He even told me so. It was the day I brought a cake to his preschool class so they could celebrate his birthday. He told me, "Mommy, go home. This is for childrens." Eric is a brilliant child. No matter what he does or where he is, he shines. His sweetness and loving nature is inherent to everything he does and I just hope that he can keep some of that tenderness as he grows into manhood.

Even though Eric is such a wonderful child, I always had a yearning for a daughter. I fantasized that she would have gold ringlets of hair which I would comb into pigtails. The pigtails would bounce as she would giggle on her way to ballet lessons. We would grow into the best of friends and I would be able to teach her to love the arts as I had loved the arts. This little girl with fat little legs and fat little fingers would be named Carmen Aida, after my two favorite operas.

I knew instinctively that I was carrying the little girl I had waited for so long when the doctor told me I was pregnant for the second time. But this time I did not feel the exuberance I felt when I was pregnant with Eric. I was so sick all the time. There was something very wrong and I was scared; but since my doctors did not appear seriously concerned, I attributed my worries to over-indulging my imagination.

The baby never had a chance. I became so ill that she was born by emergency C-section at about 30 weeks gestation. We had been told just two weeks earlier that she would be born with a serious brain condition called hydrocephalus, where there was an excess of fluid around the brain, which could lead to severe mental retardation. Because she was so premature, she even had trouble breathing and weighed only two pounds. We didn't know whether she would live; but if she did, the chances that this child would ever sing an opera were slim. So we decided to name her Carmen Anais, instead of Carmen Aida. "Carmen" was for the opera and "Anais" was for my favorite perfume at the time. I had begun to let go of the fantasy and begun to accept the reality of Carmen Anais' condition.

She stayed in the hospital for almost a year after her birth. By the time I finally got her home I felt like I had acquired a medical degree by osmosis! I had attended so many medical consultations and read so many reports that I actually understood the doctors when they spoke "medicalese." I could even argue with them, if necessary, in their own language. But in the end, it all meant the same. Carmen Anais was blind, severely brain damaged and had many medical complications.

She's not the child I waited for. She's not even the child I wanted. But Carmen Anais has been a blessing to me. She has taught me to love her unconditionally and without even the hope of her ever understanding anything I do or say.

She has caused me to develop total loyalty and patience as I waited for months by her side in the hospital and as I continue to care for her at home.

Carmen Anais has shown me how wrong we all are to underestimate the abilities of the handicapped person simply because of the severity of the handicap and how much we, the parents, need to be the advocacy vanguard for all our children. I am grateful to my daughter for having demonstrated how precious and delicate our lives are and the beauty that surrounds us. I admire what Carmen Anais has accomplished with her limited capabilities and I am proud of who she has molded me into. I accept Carmen Anais for who she is and I love her fiercely.

But sometimes, there are days when I walk through Dadeland Mall and I see a little blonde girl in pigtails buying ballet shoes with her mommy and I cry for two little girls—Carmen Aida, the child I did not have and Carmen Anais, the child who never had a chance.

A SENSE OF SELF

By Virginia E. Pomeranz, in *INSIGHTS*, the newsletter of Parent Advocates for Visually Impaired Children of Colorado, Winter, 1986.

Ways parents can give children positive views of themselves:

A. Label actions, not people. One pitfall is in the area of discipline. I urge parents to assiduously avoid the use of adjectives to label a youngster rather than describe a deed (or misdeed). Explain that what a child has done is a selfish or unkind or careless act—but don't use such adjectives to characterize the child.

Frequent use of such epithets can often become self-fulfilling prophecy. Remember that children are inclined to take language quite literally. A repeated label such as "sloppy" or "mean" or just plain "bad" can, in effect, lead a child to that self-view, with behavior continuing to reflect that image. It is also plainly unfair to reduce anyone to a one-dimensional being. "I don't like that whining tone" is fine—and completely different from "You're a whiner."

B. Say "I love you." As adults, we all like to be reassured that, whatever ghastly goofs we may commit, we still enjoy the affection of our spouses and our friends. Children, who are going through a normal period of trials and many inevitable errors, need that reassurance even more. Of course you love your child. Say so every once in a while—in words, in unexpected and unsolicited hugs and kisses.

C. Give credit. I don't think praise need be lavished on a five- or six-year old who has simply managed to get through a day doing whatever is required and not perpetuating any major transgressions. I do think, though, that praise is due for a task especially well performed, for a skill attained by effort and practice, for a work of art, for a clever idea, for an unusually thoughtful act. Since you appreciate such things, it's nice to say so. And like negative labels, positive comments can also provide reinforcement for future behavior.

D. For better, for worse. As children observe themselves and their peers, it strikes them sooner or later that, democratic principles aside, we are not all created equal. Some youngsters, it is soon apparent, can learn to read faster or throw a ball farther than others. Your child may perceive such differences and voice aloud a feeling of inadequacy in a particular area. Or a youngster may simply brood about it and it may take some parental probing to elicit what's on the child's mind. Once you have done so, your challenge is to dispel the feeling of inferiority—to reassure your child that his or her value does not hinge on a specific such as height, musical talent, somersaulting ability, ability to see well or see at all.

If you realize that your child will never attain an envied playmate's agility, ear for music or whatever, you can point out other areas in which your child does excel. And you might, too, discuss new activities and interests your youngster might want to explore, areas in which there is a potential for achievement.

E. The bottom line. There is an underlying message to all this, one that will serve to fashion not only your child's self-view, but his or her view of others as well. It is that we all differ in our innate traits, talents, and abilities—but each of us, in our own special way, is an entirely worthwhile and precious human being.

THE JOB INTERVIEW: HOW TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS

(This material was prepared for a first-ever Career Day at the Texas School for the Blind by personnel staff of the Texas Commission for the Blind.)

Here are some pointers for putting your interview on target:

1. Recognize that you are a salesperson with something unique to sell—yourself.
2. Learn the interviewer's name. Use it.
3. Be prepared to state your mission when you arrive at the employment office.
4. Have all needed items with you (your social security card, for example) and bring along a resume.
5. Come alone. Don't join forces with a friend.
6. Do shake hands if a hand is offered. Grasp firmly. Don't break it but don't offer a limp, unfriendly or shy hand.
7. Stand until you are asked to sit.
8. Do speak up and out. You can't expect the interviewer to wring questions and comments from you.
9. Know what the company does or makes.
10. Bask in the knowledge that personnel people love to hire applicants. Help her or him to help you by thinking of every possible thing you might do to aid the organization's progress or to solve its problems.
11. Anticipate probable questions.

And here are some "don'ts" for the job interview:

1. Don't ask for a job—or a chance.
2. Never say, "I'll take anything." Never. Instead (when you're very desperate) say something such as, "I've no quarrel with hard work. I can take what might seem to you a lowly job if there is a chance to move up and out as I prove myself."
3. Don't apologize for lack of experience. Instead, talk about your trainability and about how quickly you learn.
4. Don't try to do all the talking. Your share of any conversation in which two persons are involved is roughly 50 percent.
5. Do not smoke. Even if the interviewer smokes, do not smoke. It's difficult to synchronize your cigarettes with your responses to questions.
6. Don't pop into an employer's office five minutes before closing time and expect to land the job.
7. Don't tell a prospective employer about all the turndowns you've had. Pessimism breeds pessimism.
8. Don't wander from the subject at hand, which is how the prospective employer can use your services. When the interviewer strays, just be charming in return.
9. Don't rely too heavily on introductions or letters of recommendation. They only supply the entry.
10. Avoid the what-do-you-have-for-me? approach. You really can't expect a prospective employer to rattle off a list of ways he or she can use your services.
11. Don't kill yourself by "degrees." The but-I'm-a-college-graduate routine is very unappealing.
12. Do not take more than one drink if you've been invited for lunch or dinner. Take that only if your host is having one.
13. Do not hang around after the interview is over. How will you know when the interview is over? Usually the fact that the interviewer has ceased to ask questions and has thanked you for coming in signals the end of the interview.

Here are some of the questions the prospective employer may ask you. Practice your answers so you're ready in case you're asked them.

1. What do you know about us?
2. What can you tell me about your current job?

3. Do you prefer to work with others, or do you prefer to work alone? Why?
4. If you had a choice of any job, anywhere, what would you choose to do?
5. What job in our company would you choose if you were given a choice?
6. What jobs have you enjoyed the most? The least?
7. What was your best subject in school? Your worst?
8. Why do you want to work for our organization? How did you happen to apply here?
9. What are your goals? Long range? Short range?
10. What kind of contributions could you make to our company?
11. Where do you see yourself in this company five years from now? Ten years?

Here are some questions you will want to ask the prospective employer:

1. Can you tell me something about the last person who held the job?
2. Will you describe a typical job for me? That is, what would the daily duties for the job be?
3. Does the company have a policy of "promotion from within" or do you usually look to the outside for executive talent?
4. What sort of person do you hope to hire for this job?
5. What is the rate of turnover in this work at the company? How does this compare to other companies in this business?
6. How does this work area of the company fit into the organizational whole?
7. What problems do you hope to have solved by the person you hire?

Practice these questions before the interview so you can deliver them smoothly.

The follow-up letter or phone call serves the purpose of getting the potential employer to take another look.

Check your follow-up to be sure it reflects your enthusiasm for the job and not anxiety about getting a job. ("The Source," Iowa State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee, 1982-83.)

A SAMPLE DISABILITY STATEMENT

YOUR NAME

I am totally blind and travel independently to and from work, with the use of my guide dog, buses, taxi cabs and all other forms of public transportation. After my initial orientation, I am able to travel independently in my work environment. I do records and correspondence in typewritten form, as well as braille.

LIVING SKILLS HINT

Did you ever feel as big (or little) as a braille dot? I did when I realized that Gale Hedgecock's hint did not make the first quarter's edition of **AWARENESS** and that this one is less than timely. Anyway, it's a good one for folks in cold climates and it can be stored (in memory) until next winter. Gale writes that her blind son, Craig, took up cross-country skiing when they moved up "nawth" this year. His biggest problem was not standing up or maneuvering, but keeping his skis straight, so his dad notched the left ski on the left side and the right ski on the right.

Do you have a resource that is super for use with blind children? If so, send it to Gale Hedgecock, Hints Editor, 2985 State Road, Box 426, Rd-2, Rt. 49, Blossvale, NY 13308.

WHICH ARE YOU?

Are you an active member, the kind who would be missed
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?
Do you take an active part to help our work along,
Or are you satisfied to be the kind that "just belongs?"
Do you push the cause along and make things sort of click,
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?
There's quite a program scheduled that we're sure you know about,
And we'll appreciate it much if you'll come and help us out.
So attend the meetings often and help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a "slider"—take an active part!
Get new members, follow up and see them through,
Don't say, when things go wrong, "Well, I told you so."
Think this over, brother, you know right from wrong,
Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

—Anonymous

(Courtesy of The Hadley School for the Blind)

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS OFFERED

The Mississippi State University Rehabilitation, Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision announces the availability of graduate assistantships to students interested in rehabilitation research and training. The Center is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research to conduct research and training projects on the enhancement of the career development and employability of blind and visually impaired persons.

Assistantships are to be awarded by the Center to graduate students majoring in rehabilitation counseling, counselor education, psychology, sociology, educational psychology, computer science, special education, vocational education, educational leadership, curriculum and instruction, vocational evaluation or vocational specialist in visual impairments. Assistantships will be available for Fall, 1987 and Spring, 1988. Contact Center Director, P.O. Drawer 6189, Mississippi State, MS 39762, 601-325-2001.

CATALOGS: ADD THESE TO YOUR LIST!

BIT (Boston Information and Technology Corporation), "Products That Talk," including the BIT Talkman II, a pocket-sized version of the AM/FM stereo cassette recording specially adapted for playing the 4-track, slow speed Library of Congress format tapes and many other talking products. Write to BIT Corporation, P.O. Box 70, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139.

Communication Aids for Children and Adults, a catalog of various devices, including some adapted toys and educational aids (geared for different disabilities), is available from Crestwood Company, P.O. Box 04606, Milwaukee, WI 54204-0606.

EMERGENCY CALL SYSTEM DEVELOPED

• AT&T has developed an emergency device useful for blind and physically handicapped persons. With the touch of a button the hand-held transmitter activates a device which can easily be attached to any phone. It will automatically dial programmed numbers, report the emergency and give the person's address and phone number. Call AT&T at this toll-free number: 1-800-233-1222.

COMMENT PERIOD DELAYED

In the First Quarter, 1987 edition of **AWARENESS**, the new Early Childhood Amendments (P.L. 99-457) were featured. NAPVI is willing to serve as a collection point for comments on these new measures. All comments received will be sent in by NAPVI to the Office of Special Education Programs, with a summary cover sheet on NAPVI's letterhead. When the regulations for this law are published in the Federal Register, the public has 90 days to comment on aspects of the law. To date, the regulations have not been published but are due out soon. Following is a letter we received from a NAPVI member.

Mary Lou Wilkinsin, Editor, **AWARENESS**

Dear Ms. Wilkinson:

I want to say how much I enjoy **AWARENESS**! I find your magazine informative, full of encouragement and support and timely.

Please find enclosed a letter I have written as your group encouraged, regarding Public Law 99-457. I have followed this with great interest since last October, when it was signed by Pres. Reagan. I certainly feel I have ample experience to reply fairly on states' regulations. I know several children who have been passed over due to "interpretation" construed too loosely or lack of clear-cut definition. Good programs are hard enough to come by, without leaving decision making on programming to the state's officials!

Houston Independent School District suffered thousands of dollars worth of cuts in their special education budget for the next school year. They announced the great deficit was due to lack of federal and state grants. I know my son's early childhood program will be affected before they start removing funding from special education programs for school-age children.

We are fortunate to have a program like the one we have for Sammy! He goes to school a full day and his class is taught by a certified teacher of the visually impaired. There is an experienced and loving teacher's aide also working with the children. My son is seen three times a week by a licensed speech pathologist (he has a secondary speech handicap). The class goes on one field trip a week and daily plays and eats with the "normal" preschool classes at the facility.

You can see my anxiety now, in wanting to protect my son's right to continue in such a program. Thanks for the article; I hope more parents respond. The copy I'm sending you is for your records. The original will be sent by certified mail directly to Washington.

Again, our family really appreciates **AWARENESS**. I know a great deal of hard work must go into every page. But your efforts are well worth it! It's nice to know I'm not the only parent in this country who struggles with issues that affect my most prized possession—my child!

Sincerely,

Pamela Cardoso
5606 Bissonnet, #133
Houston, TX 77081
713-660-9779



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For Information, the name of your **local** VTEK representative, and/or a **free** demonstration call us TOLL-FREE at:

1-800-345-2256 in the Continental U.S. and Hawaii;
in California at 1-800-521-5605;
or in Canada and Alaska call
213-452-5966.



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JOIN NAPVI— BECOME A PART OF A NATIONAL FAMILY WITH A PURPOSE!



The National Association for Parents of
the Visually Impaired

- SUPPORT
- INFORMATION
- SERVICE

NAPVI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dear NAPVI President:

Please send my membership for the 198_____ year.
(Expires December 31)

Check One:

- ☐ Parents and Families—\$5.00
Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

My child's eye condition is: _____

- ☐ Community Groups & Agencies: \$15.00
☐ Associate: \$3.00 ☐ Sponsoring: \$200-\$1,000
☐ Supporting: \$50-\$200 ☐ Patron: Over \$1,000

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____

Enclosed is my check in U.S. funds in the amount of \$ _____.

NAPVI • P.O. Box 180806 • Austin, TX 78718

PUBLICATIONS SPOTLIGHT

Your Child's Information Journal, 1985, 3-hole punched, shrink-wrapped, 54 pages, \$5.

No filing system works until *you* make it your own! The **JOURNAL** is NAPVI's suggestion to parents as a means of collecting all of the many bits of information that are necessary in fulfilling the parental responsibility to be **the** case manager in the child's life. Put this simple **JOURNAL** to work for you!

WE ALSO OFFER:

- _____ **Take Charge!** (\$5.50)
 _____ **How To Pack 'Em In: A Guide for Parent Workshops** (\$3.00)
 _____ **A Guide to Library Resources for Teachers of the Visually Impaired** (\$9.50)
 _____ **Parents to the Rescue** (\$2.00)
 _____ **Pre-School Learning Activities** (\$7.00)

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order (in U.S. dollars) for _____.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

FRIENDS OF NAPVI: A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP

NAPVI has been able to expand its services to the families of visually impaired children because of the generosity and caring of many—grandparents, teachers, family doctors, close friends, even other parents; each of whom knows that, when you help a parent to feel encouraged, you add to the well-being of the child. NAPVI strives to offer support, information and service to parents of visually impaired and blind children.

FRIENDS OF NAPVI MEMBERSHIPS are available to everyone. These memberships assist NAPVI in providing needed service, information and support to parents of children and youth who have visual impairments. The categories are:

SUPPORTING\$ 50- 200

SPONSORING\$200-1000

PATRONover \$1000

Many have simply added a little extra on to their regular membership dues. Every extra penny is appreciated. Such contributing members receive recognition for their tax deductible contribution to NAPVI, a nonprofit organization.

We will be publishing our **FRIENDS OF NAPVI** listing in the Third Quarter, 1987 newsletter.

You may also help NAPVI by donating your time and talents, spreading word of our organization to persons who are concerned with the needs of our children and youth who have visual impairments and by letting us know what your needs are.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift in the amount of _____. Please add my name to your **FRIENDS OF NAPVI** listing in the Third Quarter, 1987 newsletter.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

CONFERENCE TAPES NOW AVAILABLE

The following tapes of sessions during the recent NAPVI conference are now available at a price of \$6 each from the NAPVI office. These include:

- 101 _____ "Equipment and Toys"
 102 _____ "Social Services"
 103 _____ "Technology"
 104 _____ "Agencies That Serve the Blind"
 105 _____ "Educational Services"
 106 _____ "Making the System Work"
 107 _____ "Family Dynamics"
 108 _____ "Words of Wisdom from Parents of Older Blind Children"
 109 _____ "Time and Stress Management"

Use this form when ordering:

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Amount Enclosed _____

NAPVI also has a number of the small "eye" logo pins in gold and silver on hand. These make excellent gifts for teachers, grandparents and "friends" of local parent groups. The pins are \$4 each.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Color Pin Desired _____ Number Desired _____



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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your **AWARENESS** address label gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after September 1 becoming 1988 members. Keep your membership current and your **AWARENESS** coming—check the bottom line!

“Why Belong To a Parent Group?”

By Michelle Lilly, age 15

(Winner, Children's Division; Student, Arkansas School for the Blind) 3700 Dunkeld Dr., N. Little Rock, AR 72116

What is a parent group and what does it do? A parent group is a group of parents that help each other. There are many kinds of parent groups, but the one I would like to write about is parent groups for the blind.

Benefits my parents and I have gained from parent groups: When I was about 15 months old, my parents joined their first parent group in California. Both they and I gained benefits from it.

Through that parent group, my parents learned different ways to help teach me to walk, to feed myself and many other important things that helped me not to become a helpless blind child.

My parents got many ideas from other parents. For example, I had never crawled before, so one of the ideas was to put me in a play pen and surround me with noise-making toys. If one fell, I could learn to reach for it very easily and possibly learn to crawl a little.

We have even now gained benefits through our parent group, the Arkansas Association for Visually Impaired Children and Youth. Through the group, we have been able to get in touch with the Division of Services for the Blind, which is an organization that goes to the homes of blind children and adults and helps them with living skills, mobility and many other things. We find a whole lot of other information that helps me to do things that I never would have thought of before. Just recently my mother went to a computer demonstration and got a lot of addresses dealing with computer aids and services for the blind. She also got to see some of the advanced technology for the visually impaired.

My mother is now actively involved in a parent group. She said she feels good when she can help other parents.

We have also been able to help parents of younger children see that their children can lead a productive life. Just recently I performed two songs for some preschool parents, one on the piano and one on the guitar. I was really surprised when I heard that some of them couldn't believe that I was still in high school and had already learned to play two instruments. I feel that parent groups are important to visually impaired children and to the parents because they will help the children become the best that they can be.

WHAT A BARGAIN!

The NAPVI Board of Directors recently was forced to increase NAPVI dues, beginning with the fiscal 1988 year. However, until September 1 you may pay the current dues for next year (\$5 for parent/family; \$3 for associates and \$15 for agencies). After September 1 the 1988 dues will be \$10 for parent/family members; \$15 for associates and \$25 for agencies.

Take advantage of our sale prices and pay those 1988 dues now.

THE CALIFORNIA SEMINAR:

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration for the four-day seminar is \$130 per person before December 1. After December 1 registration goes up to \$145. However, parents who are members of NAPVI may attend as a couple for the single registration price. Registration rates are also available per day.

For registration forms and further details about the symposium, please call one of the following numbers:

American Foundation for the Blind, toll-free hotline: 1-800-232-5463 (U.S.); 212-620-2147 (NY) Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST or EDT. For written information contact Sam Negrin, Associate Executive Director, AFB, 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011 or Bob Ralls, Executive Director, Foundation for the Junior Blind, 5300 Angeles Vista Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043 (phone 213-295-4555).

PLANNING WITH PARENTS IN MIND

Ed Del Castillo of the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (CAPVI) has gathered the following information for those who wish to attend the February Symposium but who do not plan to stay at the conference hotel. He has worked closely with Foundation for the Junior Blind Executive Director Bob Ralls in gathering this information.

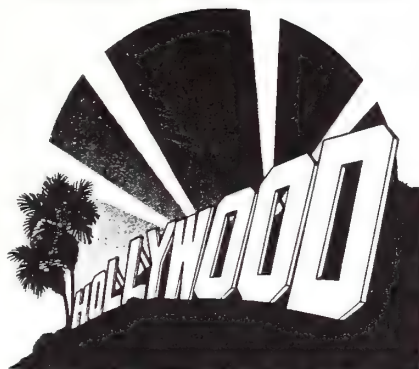
The Foundation for the Junior Blind (FJB) is making its Camp Bloomfield at Malibu available to NAPVI parents and their families on Feb. 3-6. Dormitory accommodations, meals, child care and limited transportation to and from the hotel (one hour) will be made available at the rate of \$7 per adult per day and \$5 per child (5-18 years of age) per day. Overnight camping accommodations are also available for RVs.

Rooms at the camp are dormitory style and families should come prepared to camp. Buses will run twice daily to the conference hotel and back.

The FJB has also planned a NAPVI barbecue and campfire at Bloomfield Friday evening. Those staying at the conference hotel will have bus transportation out to the camp and back for this event.

An October program/conference brochure will be circulated to NAPVI members by the Foundation for the Junior Blind and the American Foundation for the Blind giving complete details.

(Continued on page 2)



SYMPOSIUM SET

NAPVI will be one of four groups meeting as part of a February 3-6, 1988 International Symposium on Blindness and Visual Impairment, being sponsored at the Beverly Hilton Hotel/Los Angeles by The American Foundation for the Blind and the Foundation for the Junior Blind.

Additional groups convening will be the Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute, the Second International Conference on Low Vision and the National Symposium on Aging and Vision.

Central theme of the symposium is "Vision Loss: Everybody's Business" and this first-ever event is expected to bring together participants from the fields of health care, education, science and technology, commerce, business and industry and the media. Officers and board members of NAPVI are hopeful that many parents will attend, as well.

Kate Aldrich, Region V board member, will be conference coordinator for the NAPVI sessions, which will include the following: "Knowing Your Rights: An Overview of Laws Affecting Our Visually Impaired Children;" "Organizational Leadership: The Life of a Group," "Individual and System Advocacy: Getting What You Need for Your Child and Your Family," "When there Are Additional Disabilities."

The Program Committee has also planned two unique panels, including "Gainful Employment," to be composed of a group of blind or visually impaired adults and "Brothers and Sisters: Some Siblings Talk About Blindness," to be composed of a panel of sighted teens.

Mrs. Aldrich said "We hope many of our NAPVI parents in the northwestern states especially will be able to come to this seminar, as it's been some time since NAPVI has held a conference in this area. We held a similar seminar in August at Valley Forge, PA and the opportunity for participants to discuss vital issues in small group sessions and to talk about parenting visually impaired children was energizing to all."

WHAT'S INSIDE...

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AND COMING NEXT TIME...

"Least Restrictive Environment:" what it means, how it affects your child's life, how some interpret it, as well as some very special thoughts on it by Dr. Kay Ferrell! (If you have thoughts to tack onto this particular bulletin board, send them to AWARENESS, P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR 72322.)

SOME NEAR-SITE ALTERNATIVES

For those who do not wish to stay at the camp and are willing to pay more for accommodations and provide for their own transportation the following sites are within 10 miles and are rated two stars or better by the American Automobile Association. Ed has also provided telephone numbers, some toll free, so members may make their reservations.

Within four miles:

The Wilshire Crest Inn (2 blocks from Beverly Hills), \$68 and up; 213-936-5131; California 1-800-232-7378.

Best Western Sunset Plaza (on Sunset Blvd.), \$52 and up; 1-800-421-3652 (U.S.) and 1-800-252-0645 (CA).

Beverly Laurel Motor Hotel, \$54 and up; 213-651-2441.

Brentwood Motor Inn (near Bel Air and UCLA), \$60 and up 213-476-6255.

Dunes Motor Hotel/Wilshire (near Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills), \$45 and up; 213-938-3616.

Airport

Airport Century Inn (with airport shuttle), \$49 and up; 1-800-421-3939.

Airport Plaza Inn (airport shuttle) \$45 and up; 1-800-854-3380 (US) and 1-800-432-7045 (CA).

Best Western Airpark Hotel (airport shuttle), \$55 and up; 1-800-528-1234.

L.A.X. Hotel (airport shuttle), \$47 and up; 1-800-421-5781 (US) or 1-800-854-1349 (CA).

Quality Inn Airport, \$60 and up, 213-645-2200.

Within 10 miles, Between the Airport and Beverly Hills:

Best Western Executive Motor Inn (Mid-Wilshire), \$50 and up; 1-800-528-1234 or 1-800-331-8618 (CA).

Best Western Hollywood, \$49 and up, 1-800-528-1234.

Best Western Royal Palace Hotel, \$55 and up; 1-800-528-1234.

Comfort Inn, \$64 and up; 1-800-228-5150.

Hotel Hollywood, \$65 and up; 213-462-5400.

Hotel Celebrity, \$65 and up; 1-800-222-7090 (CA) or 213-850-6464.

Hollywood Highland Motel, \$42 and up, 213-851-3000.

Sea Lodge of Marina Del Rey, \$65, 213-821-2557.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about that item with the NAPVI membership. Our SHOPPING BAG, HI-TECH TALK and other resource columns highlight new, unique, free and/or inexpensive items for the visually impaired. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion. NAPVI accepts paid advertising for AWARENESS and those ads are placed on pages marked "advertising." Contact our national office for a rate card.

ON CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP AGENDAS

October 15-17 Third Annual International Conference, titled "Computer Technology/Special Education/Rehabilitation," at California State University, Northridge. An experimental computer controlled omni-directional wheelchair will be demonstrated. Keynote speaker will be Isaac T. Gillam IV, Assistant Administrator for Commercial Programs at NASA, Washington, D.C. Contact Dr. Harry J. Murphy, CSUN Office of Disabled Student Services, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge CA 91330, phone 818-885-2578.

October 14-17 "Visual Horizons," The Sixth Canadian Interdisciplinary Conference on the Visually Impaired Child, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Among the keynote speakers will be Dr. Anne Corn of the University of Texas at Austin, an associate member of NAPVI. NAPVI representative at the conference will be Henry Hedgecock. Contact SCICVIC, P.O. Box 8475, Halifax, NS, Canada B3K 5M2.

October 21-23 "Help/Tech '87," the Southeastern Conference on Helping Technology and Independence for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons, sponsored by the major Georgia agencies, organizations and institutions serving the blind. Keynote speaker will be Dr. James L. Caldwell, advisory systems analyst, IBM Entry Division, Austin, TX who was also 1985 U.S. Handicapped American of the Year. Slated for the Omni Hotel at CNN Center, 100 CNN Center at Techwood Drive, Atlanta, GA. For last minute details, contact Help/Tech '87, C/O American Foundation for the Blind, 100 Peachtree St., #213, Atlanta, GA 30303.

November 14-15 First annual convention of the Illinois Parents of the Visually Impaired, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Springfield. Child care will be provided by the staff of the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired. Contact Mary Zabelski, president at 312/774-4742 or David Ekin, publicity chairman, at 217-243-5584.

November 15 Organizational parent meeting sponsored by a grant from the Iowa State Department of Education at Gateway Center, Ames. A morning session will feature speakers from various agencies and an organizational meeting is slated for the afternoon. Vision professionals from around the state will be meeting November 14. Contact Ruth Bollinger, RR 1, Box 170, Creston, IA 50801 (515-782-2917) for more information.

November 15-18 National Conference on the Future of Special Education, sponsored by the Council for Exceptional Children at the Hyatt Orlando. Contact CEC at 1920 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703-620-3660).

February 3-6, 1988 International Symposium on Blindness and Visual Impairment, "Vision Loss: Everybody's Business." NAPVI will have a hands-on seminar during this event. (See Page 1 for details.) For information contact the American Foundation for the Blind at 1-800-232-5463 (NY residents call 212-620-2147) or the Foundation for the Junior Blind at 5300 Angeles Vista Blvd., Los Angeles 90043, (213-295-4555).

SHARING IS CARING

Many local agencies and parent organizations have forwarded newsletters or descriptive literature of their services to AWARENESS. From many we extract valuable information to pass on to our parents--many thanks, and keep them coming! We assume your purpose is the same as ours--sharing--and invite you to also use information from AWARENESS in your publications. We do try to give you the credit and ask that you do the same for us.

NAPVI NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. John M. Crandell, Payson, UT, has been named executive director of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired to succeed Dr. Lee W. Robinson, who recently assumed another position, according to NAPVI President Elaine Moses.

"Because our executive directorship is a volunteer position, we feel extremely fortunate to have obtained the expertise of an individual so uniquely qualified to address issues relating to visually impaired children, public school children, adults in rehabilitation programs, students in teacher preparation centers and those interested in the field of blindness in general," Mrs. Moses said.

Dr. Crandell is a native of Arizona. At the age of 8 he was involved in an accident with a dynamite cap which cost him the sight of one eye and severe damage to the other. Although there were no itinerant services available he continued his education in public school with the assistance of his teachers and parents.

When he graduated from the eighth grade he enrolled at the Arizona School for the Deaf and the Blind, from which he graduated. He then entered a pre-law course at the University of Arizona, reflecting his interest in current events and governmental affairs.

He interrupted his studies for a two-year period of church service. He then enrolled at Arizona State University where he received a degree in secondary education. Jobs were difficult to obtain for a visually impaired person then, as now, so when he had an opportunity to teach in a one-room elementary school in Western Arizona, he accepted. Shortly before Christmas of that year he found himself without a job when one of the students set fire to the school and his living quarters.

At that point, a position as rehabilitation teacher for the adult blind became available at the Arizona Department of Public Welfare. This position put him in frequent contact with ophthalmologists, one of whom suggested that surgery might improve his sight. This was done in San Francisco and was very successful. He went from a visual acuity of 5/200 to 20/10 in a period of about three months. For the next nine years he was able to see well enough to drive a car. He married and worked as a rehabilitation counselor, as a school psychologist, as an employment interviewer/counselor and enrolled in a doctoral program at the University of Texas.

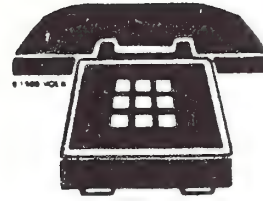
During his first year at UT he developed pneumonia with complications which resulted in retinal detachment in his good eye. A year and a half later, after seven retinal surgeries, he returned to his studies with no useful vision. Nevertheless, he completed his degree in 1966 with a dual major in educational psychology and special education.

For the next four years he taught at Temple University where he established and coordinated the program for the preparation of teachers of the visually handicapped. In 1970, when an opportunity arose to return to the West, he moved his family to Provo, Utah, to coordinate the teacher-preparation program in vision at Brigham Young University. He has been there ever since.

In addition to his interest in the education of the blind, Dr. Crandell has strong interests in research in cognitive development, is a ham radio operator and enjoys reading in a wide variety of areas and listening to classical music.

Who is handicapped:--The person who can't see or the one who doesn't look?--The one who can't hear or the one who won't listen?--The one who reaches with one hand or the one who is afraid to reach at all?

--As quoted in *The Braille Forum*



CALL NAPVI TOLL-FREE!

Toll-free numbers at NAPVI are: 1-800-225-0227 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) --U.S. and 1-800-222-1537 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) (in Texas). NAPVI's main telephone number is 512-323-5710.

BY-MAIL BALLOTING CONDUCTED DURING SEPTEMBER

Parent/family members of NAPVI have been voting by means of mail ballot during the month of September for a slate of national officers and for a member-at-large to the NAPVI Board of Directors. In addition, members in the Eastern Seaboard states have been voting for a representative to the Board.

Those on the officer's slate include Eileen Hudson, Beloit, WI, who has been serving as NAPVI vice-president, as president; Gail Granados, Norwich, CT, who is completing her term as member-at-large on the Board, as vice-president; Jeanie Flack, Harbor City, CA, who has been a Western states representative to the Board, as secretary and Henry Hedgecock, Blossvale, NY, who is running for the treasurer's position he has held during the past term.

Biographical data on these candidates appeared in the Second Quarter, 1987 edition of *AWARENESS*.

Those running for Board terms include Susan Fraser-Perrotta, Cranston, RI, as Region I (Eastern Seaboard states) representative and Christopher Cook, Knoxville, TN as member-at-large. Diana Cuthbertson, Westfield, NJ is the current Region I representative.

All newly-elected officials will assume their duties at the annual Board of Directors meeting, scheduled November 4-8. Mrs. Cuthbertson is chairman of the Nominations Committee.

Susan Fraser-Perrotta, 27 Sherman Ave., Cranston, RI 02920, (401-943-8946), is running as the representative from Region I to the NAPVI Board of Directors. She is a founding member of the New England Regional Seminar for Parents of Preschool Visually Impaired Children and also founded the Rhode Island Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired. She also helped to form the support group, Parents of Children with Cataracts, a New England-wide group. She is trained as a special education teacher and is the mother of Emily, a first grader who is also an active member of the Girl Scouts. Mrs. Fraser-Perrotta was a presenter at NAPVI's first National Parent Conference in Arlington, TX in 1986.

Christopher Cook, 1639 Dunraven Dr., Knoxville, TN 37922 (615-691-4179), currently serves as treasurer of the Tennessee Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, a NAPVI affiliate. Mr. Cook has been active in statewide efforts to establish an early intervention program; he is eager to work with others throughout NAPVI in accomplishing this goal. A vice-president of the First Tennessee Bank, Mr. Cook and his wife, Nedra, a medical librarian, are parents of a daughter, Jamie, 5. Jamie was born with retrolental fibroplasia and is now doing very well. This spring she and her Dad went on a camping and trout fishing trip.

A PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE: WHY BELONG TO A PARENT ORGANIZATION

By Dale Rudin, Texas School for the Blind
Winner, Essay Contest, First National Parent Conference,
Arlington, TX, 1986

Belonging to a parent organization serves a vital function for a professional--it allows the professional to maintain contact with the "heart of the matter." Sometimes professionals get caught up in the politics of education. At the same time, they may become more and more adept at writing goals and objectives, planning activities and using professional jargon. They might begin to get further and further away from what initially brought them into the field--the sincere desire to help a student achieve his or her maximum potential. Parents can help professionals maintain their original intent. Parents who are actively involved in a parent group are consumers. If you serve a child you serve the parent. How is it possible to serve a population without knowing its needs? A parent organization, through formal meetings, conferences and newsletters, will state its needs to those who are listening.

Parents are generally attracted to and involved in a parent organization because they have the best interests of their children at heart. They feel compelled to actively participate in order to educate and support themselves, serve as advocates and generally to develop the skills needed to enable their children to grow. There is an urgency about the parent's involvement because for him/her it touches on one of the most important parts of life--their children. A professional can feel the intensity of this involvement and instantly get energized.

Involved parents are the primary advocates for their children. They advocate not because they think they should, nor because it is politically correct. They advocate because they **must** if they are going to support their children and help them progress. They are rooted in the present, yet have an eye toward the future because it is the parent who will be with the child when all others fade out of the picture for one reason or another. On the other hand, a professional is usually with the child for a short period of time and focuses on a specific area or set of objectives. This perspective can tend to be myopic and more narrowly concerned with just a portion of the entire picture. Because parents are the people responsible over time and have the best interests of their children at heart they tend to be concerned with broader issues. What are the broader issues?

Basically they involve a child's present and future happiness and growth, the ability to cope with the world and the disability and the ability to be as independent as possible. When a professional really listens to parental concerns and is guided by these concerns in his or her professional practice, it is almost a guarantee that the program for each child will be more on target and more in tune with what is really important.

A parent organization can provide emotional support to a professional. Parents generally think that the education of their children is of the utmost importance and usually appreciate the professionals who are committed to the process. Often a student is not in position to really appreciate a professional but the parent knows when there is someone around who is sincerely working for the betterment of the child. There is nothing more supportive than a parent's appreciation. It helps a professional continue his or her work during the difficult times that arise throughout a career in education.

Most parent organizations are formed to somehow support and enhance the educational process of a child. Organizational objectives might include: advocating for legislative change;

educating its members in regard to specific educational practices; sharing information concerning a disability; or simply keeping people more involved and abreast of new information in the field. A parent organization empowers parents to make better decisions about their children's lives. It gives power to those that are ultimately responsible. Support of a parent organization implies support of a better, less paternalistic decision-making process in regard to a student's education and development.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: "TRANSITION"

It's important for us as parents to get it all together for our children before they begin to think about entering the job market. My 17-year-old daughter, Cara, is continually asking me: "Do my clothes match?" "How does my hair look today?" She has learned to keep her clothes organized and to take care of her own grooming. Parents are the best teachers. Why should we as parents think, "Oh, his/her teacher can show him/her how to do that" when it comes to important grooming or self-care aspects? Why should a teacher who only sees our children for a few hours a day be expected to prepare them for the real world? Parents are the first link to the child's future.

-- Mary Zabelski, President
Illinois Parents of the Visually Impaired

My concern is that "transition" may lose its vitality as a concept, even as such words as "deinstitutionalization" and "normalization" have been diluted. Transition must connote a "quality of life" in order to maintain its vitality.

-- Dr. Paul Bates, Professor
Department of Special Education
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

TAKE THE TIME

He hadn't the time to pen a note,
He hadn't the time to cast a vote,
He hadn't the time to sing a song,
He hadn't the time to right a wrong,
He hadn't time to love or give,
He hadn't time to really live;
From now on, he'll have time on end,
He died today, my "busy" friend.

--Anonymous

AWARENESS is a quarterly publication of the National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc., a nonprofit organization with offices at 7530 North Lamar, Suite 106, Austin, TX 78752. Mailing address is P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. **AWARENESS** is entered as second class matter at Austin, Texas.

CONTRIBUTIONS Items intended for publication should be sent to: **AWARENESS**, P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR 72322. Materials may be submitted in handwriting, type or on cassette and must be signed. **Deadline for 4th Quarter, 1987 edition is November 1.** All items submitted become the property of NAPVI and will not be returned. We reserve the right to edit.

Editor Mary Lou Wilkinson
Assistant Editor Keitha Robinson
Advertising Director Dr. John M. Crandell

IMPACTING LOCAL POLICY

By Terry Leo

(Ed. Note: In the Second Quarter, 1987 edition of AWARENESS, Ms. Leo, a teacher of the visually impaired in Garland, TX, discussed ways that parents can find out how vital federal legislation is progressing. In the following article, she discusses ways local parent groups can impact public awareness and action regarding the handicapped in general and visually impaired children in particular. In the next edition, Ms. Leo will talk about "grassroots" politics and getting involved at that vital precinct level.)

Think of your role in local politics as a "friendly agitator." Stay calm and listen to all sides. This will be extremely difficult at times, since it is very hard to stay calm when emotionally involved or upset about an issue.

Most people will listen if you stand firm on your position and if you are also rational and fair toward them. This will be true when dealing with other parents, professionals, administrators, school board members and elected officials. Let them know you care about them as individuals even though you disagree with their viewpoint.

This will break down barriers to communication and bring everyone together in working toward the same goal, while keeping the focus on what really is important--our kids!

Don't miss an opportunity to give of yourself--to give a teacher a "warm fuzzy," to be PTA president, to be a friend to another parent in his/her time of need, to work for a candidate you support. Most people will not forget your help and will often put themselves on the line for you. It is very difficult to turn down someone who has bent over backwards for you.

Stay Informed

Know the issues and know your candidates. One way to do this is to form a local NAPVI chapter or a group for parents of handicapped children. A suggested list of goals might be as follows:

1. to promote the participation of the chapter or group at the grassroots level of precinct politics and to develop an intelligent approach for affecting change through our governmental structure.
2. to develop a local communications network that will allow for fast dispersal of news pertinent to local and state concerns (i.e. local newsletter, telephone hotline).
3. to identify and develop potential leaders who would run for political vacancies.
4. to work for a complementary working relationship between chapter or group, community and political parties.
5. to provide an open, informal atmosphere for the discussion of methods to promote unity and efficiency within the chapter or group itself and within the community.
6. to monitor government leaders and elected community officials in regard to their voting history and their stand on issues that are important to visually impaired and other handicapped citizens.
7. to sponsor local educational seminars and provide informed speakers on a broad range of topics.

*Following are some things just one person can do:

1. Get the kids and other visually impaired citizens involved in the community. Put an article in the paper about their accomplishments. Have them tutor other students, rake leaves, help out at a nursing home, etc. This lets the community know you are out there and what your needs might be. Besides creating good public relations, it is important for our kids to learn to give to others in their school and community, especially since so often they are on the receiving end of things.
2. Bring an advocate with you to meetings, etc. Two heads

are always better than one; you will have some emotional support and your ideas will carry more weight.

3. Never miss the opportunity to thank a candidate, teacher, administrator or school board member when he/she has done something right, even if it is something that does not directly benefit you but improves the system as a whole.

4. Remember that our children learn by our example. If we show our children that we are active, concerned citizens in our community, they will learn to be leaders themselves.

PARENTAL LEAVE ON LINE

Lawmakers are currently considering passage of **The Parental and Medical Leave Act**, legislation which would provide unpaid leave for parents of a child with a serious illness or disability. The Senate version of the bill is called the Parental and Medical Leave Act (S.249). The House of Representatives' version is called the Family and Medical Leave Act (H.R. 925).

Urgent action is needed in order to pass the **Parental and Medical Leave Act**. It is essential for all parents, their families, friends and advocates to write to their representatives and Senators about this bill. Opponents of this bill are mounting a huge campaign to defeat it--parents' voices need to be heard in Congress, as Congressional offices keep track and respond to every letter they receive. Write your representative at: U.S. House of Representatives, Washington D.C. 20515 and your Senator at U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

These bills contain the following provisions:

1. **Unpaid Family Leave:** An employee may take up to 18 weeks of unpaid leave over a 24-month period upon the birth, adoption or serious health condition of a child. The House bill also permits employees to take family leave to care for a seriously ill parent. An employee may substitute appropriate paid leave for part of the unpaid leave. All employees are required to provide reasonable notice if possible and to schedule their leave to accommodate the needs of the employer.

2. **Unpaid Medical Leave:** An employee may take up to 26 weeks of leave over a 12-month period when unable to perform his or her job due to a serious health condition. The employee may substitute appropriate paid leave for part of the unpaid leave. The employer may require medical certification.

These provisions apply to those who need parental or medical leave and are employed by a firm with 15 or more employees.

Upon returning to work, the employee is to be restored to his or her previous job or to an equivalent position. During the leave period the employer must continue health benefit coverage on the same basis as prior to the leave. Both civil and administrative enforcement is provided and remedies for violation include reinstatement, back-pay/benefits and consequential damages.

Parents of children with disabilities and serious illnesses from across the country have testified before Congress in support of parental leave. One such parent is "Lawrence," who was employed as a security guard in California when his son, Christopher, was born prematurely. Christopher had severe respiratory distress and was in NICU for a month. During that time, they did not know if Christopher would live or die. Lawrence was paid by the hour and was not paid for the hours he took off to be at the hospital.

Christopher must be on an apnea monitor constantly and he is at very high risk for SIDS. When Christopher was released from the hospital, Lawrence took a few days off. His dispatcher at work said it was no problem. When he went in to pick up his pay check, his supervisor said that although Lawrence was a good worker, and they understood he had problems, they had to let him go because of the time he had missed.

ON THE BOOKSHELF

A DIFFERENCE IN THE FAMILY: LIVING WITH A DISABLED CHILD discusses how families cope with the arrival of a disabled child. Basic reading for parents, professionals and extended family. Available in paperback at a cost of 6.95 plus 5 percent for shipping from Gray's Book Company, 1821 Solano Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707, telephone 415-527-9677.

AFTER THE TEARS--PARENTS TALK ABOUT RAISING A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY by Robin Simons is a book by and for parents of children with disabilities.

AFTER THE TEARS is the story of parents who have struggled, learned and grown in the years since their children were born. All of them felt the same initial anguish on learning of the child's disability. All have come a long way since those initial tears. This book is available in hard cover (\$12.95) and paperback (\$4.95) from Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 1250 Sixth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101, 619-231-6616.

LET'S PLAY TO GROW: RECIPES FOR FUN is a publication for families and professionals which promotes fun and togetherness for children, age 0-8 and their families, offering 120 pages of exciting games and activities. It uses inexpensive equipment, including common household items and provides easy-to-follow instructions for making homemade toys. It offers practical suggestions for adapting familiar and unusual games and activities to a variety of developmental stages and handicapping conditions. To order send \$9.50 to **Let's Play To Grow**, 1350 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005 or telephone 202-393-1250.

94-142 AND 504: NUMBERS THAT ADD UP TO EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. This guide for parents and advocates, available in both English and Spanish, explains the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. It guides parents through the responsibilities their school district has to any child who needs special education. It contains 72 pages and sells for \$4.75 (please indicate which edition you are ordering--English or Spanish. Add \$1.50 for postage and mail check or money order to the Children's Defense Fund, 122 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. (No return policy.)

TOT TALK

By James R. Durst, Coordinator of Technical Assistance and Outreach, West Virginia School for the Blind.

The concept of time is a difficult concept for all young children to grasp. It is especially difficult for blind children. Their lack of vision makes it difficult for them to determine if it is day or night. It is important for parents to give their children clues as to what time it is during the day, not specific time but rather, "morning is the time when we get up, at noon we eat lunch, at night we go to bed." Other clues may include brushing teeth in the morning, brothers and sisters going off to school or Dad coming home from work in the evening. Use your schedule to give your child clues that are easy for him to grasp.

Once the child has mastered the time concept of morning, afternoon and night, you may want to carry it further to include the concept of yesterday, today and tomorrow. You will also need to give your child clues to relate to these times. "Yesterday we went to the park. Today we are going to have pizza for lunch and tomorrow we are going to grandmother's."

Don't be overly concerned if your child does not understand this concept at first. This concept is more abstract and most children experience difficulty with it. Continue to provide the clues and your child should master the basic concepts in time.

ELIZABETH

By Nancy Bottner, 10 Cornwall Dr., Newark, DE 19711

I understand your reaction when I tell you
My child is blind.
You feel awkward, sad, pity,
And words don't come easily.
But before you speak, just look at her,
Listen to her.
See her running and smiling.
Hear her talking and laughing.
She is very happy and very normal.
You need not pity this child.
Learn from her, for she has something
To teach you.
Let her touch your heart
As she has so many others.
You, too, will then realize
Her special lesson.
For the next time you see someone who
Appears less fortunate than yourself,
You will remember Elizabeth and you will
Smile with love and understanding.

(Elizabeth is one of 2-year-old triplets, all of whom are visually impaired to some degree. However, only Elizabeth has total vision loss due to her 13 week prematurity and RLF. She has been quite an inspiration to all who know her.)

TALKING WITH MEDICAL PERSONNEL: TIPS FOR PARENTS

1. Ask doctors, nurses and others questions you have about any area of your child's care; also ask them to clarify if you don't understand their jargon.
2. If you wish to ask sensitive questions and your child or other people are present, ask to speak in private if it makes you feel more comfortable.
3. Keep in mind your right to ask questions. If you have many complex questions, however, you may wish to arrange a separate appointment when there will be time to discuss them in detail.
4. Bring out, and ask professionals to bring out, any positive progress your child has made. This approach can be helpful to you and your child. Medical situations are often oriented toward problems. Sometimes progress and development tend not to be emphasized.
5. Ask, if you don't know, what the next logical areas for change and progress might be.
6. Find someone involved with your child's care whom you respect and can talk to--knowledge as well as personality is important.
7. Consider asking all of your child's specialists to meet together with you at some point to discuss progress, future goals and plans.
8. Search for information: read anything you can find on the topic, write to anyone who has information, ask those who work with your child if they know of any relevant articles that could help you understand your child's disability.
9. Between visits make a list of questions that occur to you; sometimes they are hard to remember later.
10. Make a list of any questions your child may have. This is one good way to reinforce your child's role in his/her own care.

Adapted from the ACLD Newsletter (Association for Children with Learning Disabilities), January/February, 1983.

TEACHING "JOHNNY" TO BE AN ADVOCATE HELPS!

By Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor

Our plea in the last newsletter for expertise from seasoned students to ease the transition into college life for those "following in their footsteps" was answered by Barbara Mattson, 134 Hall St., Apt. A, Spartanburg, SC 29302, who responded by tape. She is presently writing a book for the American Foundation for the Blind on how a blind parent can raise a sighted child and was hoping to be enrolled, by this time, once again in college--this time to become more proficient with computers. Many thanks to Ms. Mattson for taking the time to share.

The only other contributor was "conscripted" but would have volunteered anyway, because he is my son and can't escape. Also, he has the distinction, admirable or not, of having already been enrolled in both an in-state and an out-of-state college.

Who hasn't been caught up in red tape or confused by the system, on occasion, when attempting to get services, books or equipment for his/her visually impaired child?

If your child is in high school, don't wait for the big day of graduation to know what to expect from your state agency or the college he/she is planning to attend. **Ask now.** Know what you can count on in the way of funds (in-state, out-of-state tuition; books, readers, etc.); equipment (some states do not provide anything on pre-college level, but will help with Versabrailles, etc. in college); services (orientation and mobility on campus, both in state and out).

What does the college itself provide? Most campuses have a center for disabled students, but that doesn't mean they have had a blind student. You may have to be the catalyst for them to know what to do for you (and others who will follow).

It is impossible to overemphasize learning this **now** and setting up dates, if possible, as far in advance as you can, to meet/talk with advisors, counselors, etc.

Advocacy does not stop with graduation--it only shifts from Mom and Dad to the student; so, all three of you need to get into the act and start calling around today. Our experience has been (and we believe it is not unique or individual) that, just because someone is employed in a center or agency he/she knows everything. If you get an answer to a question that doesn't jive with what you were expecting, make another call--and another and another until you are absolutely sure you have the right information. Then you can begin making your plans. **Don't give up!**

Sometimes it seems the "system" is designed to discourage even a saint from pursuing any further in an endeavor to receive funds, services or equipment. They are there for you/your child--you just have to persist through the red tape. The old adage: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" applies here because the groundwork you lay now will prevent crises in the future. Be positive in your approach. Most people want to help, but are caught up themselves in honestly not knowing "what" or "how to." Rule of Thumb: "sugar first; vinegar only as a last resort."

Become a "telephone freak." One phone call may save you blocks of walking, waiting in lines or finding you are in the wrong office and so-and-so works across town or campus. Learn to use 800 numbers, cheap rates, etc. Frequently, even a long distance toll is still the most efficient (and economical) way of getting what you need. Letters, while economical and preferable in some cases, are time consuming and relatively impersonal. Weigh the practicality and "public relations" value of telephone vs. mail approach. Talking with a person establishes immediate feedback and person-to-person communication. Personal interviews are even better, but not always possible.

Choosing a college needs to be a personal/family decision based on size, major compatibility, special services and cost.

Students start applying in the fall of their senior year, so it is never too early to investigate. If cost is to be a major factor (and it is with most of us) investigate financial aid possibilities. Many high school counseling offices and virtually all college campuses can provide information and steps to be followed to secure grants and loans. Since financial aid takes awhile and money is limited, it is important to begin early. Scholarships are available from the American Council for the Blind, the American Foundation for the Blind and the National Federation of the Blind. Details are announced in **AWARENESS** as they become available.

Your formal application and acceptance alerts the college that you are serious about becoming a member of their student population. They can then start helping you acquire a counselor, establish a course load, determine book needs, arrange housing, etc.

Ms. Mattson stresses getting an early start on course needs, including books. Many may be acquired from Recordings for the Blind (see article, this page). Others will have to be taped by readers. Ms. Mattson also stated that she does not approach special problems like taking tests with individual professors until classes begin; then she works it out on an individual basis. Notetaking approaches to research have never been a problem for her and also have been worked out on an individual basis.

The two "key" words to success seem to be "investigate" and "now."

(Ed. Note: By now, many of our NAPVI members are "pros" on this topic as well, so we encourage you to send your thoughts to PARENT BULLETIN BOARD, AWARENESS, P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR, 72322.)

RECORDING FOR THE BLIND SERVES MANY

Recording for the Blind (RFB) is a national, nonprofit service organization which provides recorded educational books to anyone who cannot read standard printed material because of a visual, physical or perceptual disability.

RFB is a recording service relying on the work of more than 4,000 volunteers in 29 recording studios across the country (its Austin, Texas office graciously produces **AWARENESS** newsletter on to tape for those of our members wishing a taped copy). RFB is a library containing more than 70,000 recorded books, making it the largest of its kind in the world. RFB is a delivery system circulating 130,000 books each year.

Most of all, however, RFB is a service to people; more than 22,000 men, women and children in all 50 states and more than 40 foreign countries benefit from its programs.

Every borrower must register with RFB by completing an "Application for Service" form. Accepted borrowers are issued a borrower identification number which expedites dealings with RFB. Recordings can be ordered on a toll-free WATS line and may be kept for one year, if necessary.

RFB cassettes cannot be played on standard two-track cassette machines sold in stores. They can be played on Library of Congress four-track dual speed cassette players which are available on free-loan to registered blind and physically handicapped borrowers of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a division of the Library of Congress.

RFB maintains a catalog of all titles available listed by title, author and subject matter or, upon request, they will look up a book for you to see if it is available--you must know the title, author and publishing date.

If a book is unavailable, RFB may record it. For information about the procedure used as well as information concerning the catalog, contact Recording for the Blind, Office of Public Information, 20 Roszel Road, Princeton, NJ 08540 or telephone 609-452-0606.

HIGH TECH TALK

The First Annual Conference on Computer Technology for Visually Impaired and Learning Disabled, sponsored by the Massachusetts Association on Handicapped Student Service Programs in Postsecondary Education, will be held at Boston University, George Sherman Union, 775 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215 Monday, Nov. 9. Students, interested professionals and parents are invited to attend. Contact Kip Opperman at 617-353-3658.

DIRECT LINK, a quarterly publication of the Center for Computer Assistance to the Disabled, is available free and may be obtained by writing: C-CAD, 2501 Avenue J, Suite 100, Arlington, TX 76006.

Talking and Visual Aids, 8136 Appoline, Detroit, MI 48228 has introduced the **P-SEE MAGNIFIER**, a personal color aid made and/or assembled in Michigan by and for low vision persons. Company representative Lee Thume says, "People see with the P-See magnifier what many of them have not seen in a long, long time--since the onset of legal blindness--things like family photographs in color, red and dim postmarks, clothing and other catalog items, notes in longhand in red, blue or green ink on yellow legal pads, children's coloring books." For more information, telephone 313-935-1266.

SEE FOR YOURSELF is a new videotape on the value of closed circuit TV systems (CCTVs) for those interested in learning more about its use in helping partially sighted people to read printed or handwritten material. The tape, developed by Telesensory Systems, Inc. of Mountain View, CA, features five persons who use the system. It is available on loan by phoning TSI at 1-800-874-9009 (inside CA) or 1-800-227-8418 (outside CA).

THE C-PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE, by Brian W. Kernighan and Dennis Ritchie, considered by many the bible of programming books, is now available in braille from the National Braille Press, 88 St. Stephen Street, Boston, MA 02115, 617-266-6160. "C" is a general purpose programming language and is not tied to any one operating system or machine.

CALL FOR PHOTOS!

Plans are underway for NAPVI's second national convention in 1989. Timelines call for brochure development as early as December, 1987 and we're searching for an action photo of a visually impaired child with one or both of his/her parents for this.

As a member of NAPVI you have the opportunity to submit a photograph to us. Please remember that by doing so, you are giving your permission for NAPVI to use the photo in this advertising brochure or in future display development. NAPVI is a non-profit organization and such photos will not be used for commercial gain.

Submission deadline is December 1. Entries should be mailed to NAPVI Conference Brochure, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. Size of the snapshot does not matter. Black and white prints are best, but color is acceptable. We will be looking for good contrast. You don't need to submit a negative with the print, but we may ask you for the negative should we decide to use your print. Please tape the following information to the back of your picture (if you don't want to cut up your copy of AWARENESS, please be sure all the following information is written on the back of the entry. No photos will be returned.

CHILD'S NAME _____
CHILD'S AGE _____
CHILD'S EYE CONDITION _____
PARENT(S) (shown in pix) NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY, ST, ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____

PARENT BULLETIN BOARD

(Ed. Note: Many parents have voiced problems having access to braille music. If any of you can help, please do. Following is a letter from Kay McKnight, 4800 Hidden Oaks Arlington, TX 76017, who is incidentally Region V member to the NAPVI Board of Directors. If you'd like input from other parents on a particular topic relevant to visually impaired children, send your inquiry to PARENT BULLETIN BOARD P.O. Box 206, Caldwell, AR 72322.)

Dear Mary Lou,

I saw your message in the NAPVI newsletter this week from Anita Miller who has a visually impaired daughter who is 11 years old and is interested in piano and flute. I saw the request about the french horn, also.

I have a 13-year-old daughter, Holly, who plays the piano and the clarinet. Holly took Suzuki piano lessons for a year or so when she was 8 or 9 years old. In case you're not familiar with the Suzuki method, they teach the students to play by ear and repetition. They do not include reading music until the child has already learned to play some pretty interesting music on the piano. We felt that it would be the perfect method for Holly. Unfortunately, the lessons fell by the wayside. I sold our old upright piano in a garage sale, intending to buy a new piano. However, the piano I found that I wanted was a wonderful antique player piano which cost much more than I could afford. As a result, we bought a Yamaha keyboard.

Holly started band in 7th grade last fall. I had no idea how she was going to keep up with the class, as far as reading music was concerned. Holly knows the letter names of the lines and spaces and she has a really good musical background from her elementary music teachers. Her vision, unfortunately, prevents her from being able to read music quickly enough to play the piece.

We experimented with several different ideas during the school year. At first, I read the notes aloud for Holly and she would play the notes on the clarinet. Thank goodness, she has a good ear and a good memory. Then I started typing the letters on our computer, using "Print Shop." As the music became more complicated, Holly needed to know whether the note was high or low and she needed to know the value of the note. At this time, we started enlarging her music to 11 x 17 sheets of paper. Then I would write the letter under each note. This enabled her to read the letters quickly, but she could also look at the note to see where it was on the staff and to check the value of the note. I would say that the most effective way for Holly to play her music was to hear another student or the class play it. Her ear is good enough that she is able to reproduce whatever someone else plays.

Holly went to several band contests and won first place ribbons each time. She had a wonderful year in beginner band in spite of her mother's worries and doubts and lack of musical knowledge. Holly will be in symphonic band next year. I am still searching for an effective method for her to play her clarinet without my help. Since Holly has been learning braille since January, I have begun checking for braille music. I have found a 1979 catalog of braille and/or large print music from the American Printing House. You can order music books for every instrument, including flute and clarinet. Someone told me that braille music is extremely difficult to use, but I have never seen any so I can't say. One of Holly's friends plays drums in his junior high school band. He reads braille well and uses Versabrilie in his academic classes. I am going to contact him and ask him some questions about braille music.

If you would like to have his name and address, let me know and I'll check with his parents to be sure they don't mind. I would like to hear from you and I am anxious to know your ideas about making music accessible for VH children.

Sincerely, Kay McKnight

FRIENDS OF NAPVI: YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE!

The officers and members of the NAPVI Board of Directors wish to take this means of thanking the following individuals, agencies and organizations for their support during the last year. This list is not all inclusive; we will publish an additional listing in the Fourth Quarter, 1987 **AWARENESS**. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Abraham
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"We believe that whenever two or more people gather to help each other, there is a power in the group that is greater than the sum of the strength that each individual possesses."

(Quoted in Helping Ourselves, newsletter from the Michigan Self-Help Clearinghouse.)

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MAINSTREAMING THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILD



Unless you are a teacher or other professional in the field, you may have missed this unique, informative guide, published in 1977 by Michael D. Orlansky, Ph.D., edited by Thomas N. Fairchild, Ph.D., and cleverly illustrated by Daniel B. Fairchild. They have graciously allowed NAPVI the opportunity to re-distribute this book for the benefit of the NAPVI membership.

To order your copy of Mainstreaming the Visually Impaired Child, which will be available in November, send \$12, plus \$1 for postage, to NAPVI, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718.

_____ **Mainstreaming the VI Child (\$12.00)**

_____ **Your Child's Information Journal (\$5.00)**

_____ **How to Pack 'Em In: A Guide for Parent Workshops (\$3.00)**

_____ **A Guide to Library Resources for Teachers of the Visually Impaired (\$9.50)**

_____ **Parents to the Rescue (\$2.00)**

_____ **Pre-School Learning Activities (\$7.00)**

_____ **Take Charge! (\$5.50)**

Include \$1.00 for postage and handling. Enclosed is my check/money order (in U.S. Dollars for _____)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send to NAPVI - P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718

AD RATE CARD AVAILABLE

NAPVI is now accepting advertising to AWARENESS and a rate card is available to any company or individual producing goods or services of interest to families of visually impaired and blind children.

Such advertising is to be limited to a certain block within the publication and clearly marked "advertising," as NAPVI does not endorse products as a part of its services. NAPVI reserves the right of editorial discretion in acceptance of advertising.

Advertising deadline for the Fourth Quarter, 1987 edition of AWARENESS is November 1. For information regarding rates, please contact the advertising director, NAPVI/National Office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718 or telephone toll-free 1-800-225-0227 (wait for tone, then dial 994610). Texas residents dial toll-free 1-800-222-1537 (wait for tone, then dial 994610).

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NAPVI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dear NAPVI President:

Please send my membership for the 198_____ year.
(Expires December 31)

Check One:

☐ Parents and Families—\$10.00

Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

My child's eye condition is: _____

☐ Community Groups & Agencies: \$25.00

☐ Associate: \$15.00

☐ Sponsoring: \$200-\$1,000

☐ Supporting: \$50-\$200

☐ Patron: Over \$1,000

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Enclosed is my check in U.S. funds in the amount of \$_____.

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THE BOTTOM LINE...of your AWARENESS address label gives the last year we received a membership payment from you. Board policy is to serve current members and then others only as time and money permit. The NAPVI membership year runs from January 1 to December 31, with those paying after September 1 becoming 1988 members. Keep your membership current and your AWARENESS coming—check the bottom line!

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AN ENLIGHTENING VISIT

By Diana Mihalakis, 585 Parvin Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035

Recently the elementary schools in our community were reading the story of young Helen Keller and one of the teachers invited Carly, my blind 3-year-old, and I to be guest speakers in her third grade class. I was delighted to give the children the opportunity to observe a blind child and provide them with a real experience to draw upon when studying Helen Keller. Perhaps Carly would be the only blind person these children would ever meet and for them to have a positive and memorable experience was most important.

The children were attentive and polite as I described life with Carly. I conveyed the message all parents of visually impaired children have, that Carly is a happy, normal little girl who does everything other children do except see with her eyes. I explained that people who are different because of a disability have something special to share with us and that Carly helps me "see" special things everyday. As I spoke, Carly explored the room in her curious, detailed manner.

During the question and answer period the children learned almost everything about Carly, including the fact that she lost her eyes because of cancer and that she wore artificial eyes. They were surprisingly accepting. When I asked if she could sit in one of the desks, everyone in the class excitedly raised their hands. The children gathered around Carly as she shared her braille book with them and their affection for her was obvious. They were kind to their special little visitor, not because an adult told them they must be, but because they truly liked Carly.

As the teacher escorted us out of the class, she asked if we would come back for a party celebrating Carly's third birthday. When we returned the following week, the class had prepared a

party with all the trimmings and each child had made a birthday card just for Carly. The children watched as she ate cake and drank punch and were amazed how Carly could tell what each present was as she opened it.

When Carly's older sister, Kristine, invited us to visit her second grade class, I asked the local newspaper if they would be interested in the story. They sent a reporter to cover our talk and printed a lengthy article in the newspaper. Not only did 75 children come to know and like Carly, but the entire community was given an opportunity to learn about a child with a visual impairment.

(Ed. Note: The article, including a picture of Carly with her sister, appeared in the Milpitas Post February 4, 1987.)

A "TRANSITION" PLAN

After six years a dream became reality last year as the NAPVI Board of Directors took its first steps to setting up a scholarship fund to be used by visually impaired students. Each year parents of visually impaired children struggle to find needed dollars and services to help anxious sons or daughters achieve a niche in the tough upward climb toward independence.

If you are a grandparent who has watched this struggle, or perhaps the parent of a preschooler hopeful that someday these scholarship opportunities will be in place for your own child or even a professional looking about for some meaningful way to enrich the life of a visually impaired child, why not earmark a little toward the NAPVI Scholarship Fund?

Our treasurer will dedicate your donation, which has been clearly marked "NAPVI Scholarships" to that purpose.

Every dream takes time and effort to become reality. With your help, NAPVI's Scholarship Fund will make "transitioning" less of a crisis for many visually impaired children.



AWARENESS

1987

FOURTH QUARTER

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AND COMING NEXT TIME...

...A Focus On Low Vision

VISION LOSS: EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS!

NAPVI will be one of four groups meeting as part of a February 3-6, 1988 International Symposium on Blindness and Visual Impairment, being sponsored at the Beverly Hilton Hotel/Los Angeles by The American Foundation for the Blind and the Foundation for the Junior Blind.

Additional groups convening will be the Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute, the Second International Conference on Low Vision and the National Symposium on Aging and Vision.

Central theme of the symposium is "Vision Loss: Everybody's Business" and this first-ever event is expected to bring together participants from the fields of health care, education, science and technology, commerce, business and industry and the media. Officers and board members of NAPVI are hopeful that many parents will attend, as well.

Kate Aldrich, Region V board member, will be conference coordinator for the NAPVI sessions, which will include the following: "Knowing Your Rights: An Overview of Laws Affecting Our Visually Impaired Children," Kate Aldrich and Dr. Alana Zambone, national consultant in early childhood and multihandicapped, American Foundation for the Blind, presenters; "Organizational Leadership: The Life of a Group," Judith Stotland and Dr. Lee Robinson, senior associate dean, Hadley School for the Blind, presenters; "Individual and System Advocacy: Getting What You Need for Your Child and Your Family," Dr. Kay Ferrell, assistant professor, Teacher's College, Columbia University, Dr. Joan Stoddard, project coordinator of Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK) and Jeanie Flack and "When there Are Additional Disabilities," Dr. Zambone, Josie Garro, Patricia Salcedo, infant-family specialist, Foundation for the Junior Blind and Diane Hill, presenters.

The Program Committee has also planned two unique panels, including "Gainful Employment," to be chaired by Robert Acosta, founder and president of the California Council of the Blind and "Brothers and Sisters: Some Siblings Talk About Blindness," moderated by Rebecca Wallace, coordinator of psychological services, Blind Children's Learning Center.

FOR NAPVI PARENTS

The American Foundation for the Blind has generously made a certain amount of scholarship monies available so that NAPVI members will be able to attend the historic Vision Loss Symposium in Los Angeles Feb. 3-6.

If you wish to be considered for funds (travel, lodging, babysitting) you must write a letter to your NAPVI Regional Representative outlining the proposed costs of your trip (or use the form provided below). Time is of the essence in this scholarship effort.

All those considered will be willing to stay at the Foundation for the Junior Blind Camp/Malibu or will live within commuter distance of the Symposium site, will be a member of NAPVI, will be a parent or guardian of a visually impaired child and will be able to present his/her NAPVI representative with a list of anticipated expenses.

Name: _____
Street: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: (_____) _____
List of Expenses:
Travel.....\$ _____
Camp (\$7/night/person)..\$ _____
Meals\$ _____
Babysitting.....\$ _____

Regional Representatives, their addresses and phone numbers follow:

Susan Fraser-Perrotta-Region I (New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire); 27 Sherman Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920; 401-943-8946.

Norma Lucas-Region II (Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Delaware, Kentucky); 832 Shannon Road, Girard, OH 44420; 216-539-4649.

Joan Johnson-Region III (Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa); 1074 S. Greentree, Springfield, MO 65804; 417-883-1140.

Tom Auletta-Region IV (Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas); 6750 Deer Springs, Keystone Hts., FL 32656; 904-473-3185.

Kay McKnight-Region V (Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah); 4800 Hidden Oaks, Arlington, TX 76017; 817-478-2313.

Kate Aldrich-Region VI (California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, Hawaii) 1445 Baird Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95405; 707-539-9603.

Christopher Cook-Member-at-Large, 1639 Dunraven Road, Knoxville, TN 37922; 615-691-4179.

THE CALIFORNIA SEMINAR: HOW TO REGISTER

Registration for the four-day seminar is \$145. However, parents who are members of NAPVI may attend as a couple for the single registration price. Registration rates are also available per day.

For registration forms and further details about the symposium, please call one of the following numbers:

American Foundation for the Blind, toll-free hotline: 1-800-232-5463 (U.S.); 212-620-2147 (NY) Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST or EDT. For written information contact Sam Negrin, Associate Executive Director, AFB, 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011 or Bob Ralls, Executive Director, Foundation for the Junior Blind, 5300 Angeles Vista Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043 (phone 213-295-4555).

FJB CAMP AN ECONOMICAL ALTERNATIVE

The Foundation for the Junior Blind (FJB) is making its Camp Bloomfield at Malibu available to NAPVI parents and their families on Feb. 3-6. Dormitory accommodations, meals, child care and limited transportation to and from the hotel (one hour) will be made available at the rate of \$7 per adult per day and \$5 per child (5-18 years of age) per day. Overnight camping accommodations are also available for RVs but no hook-ups will be available.

Rooms at the camp are dormitory style and families should come prepared to camp, including your own bedding and towels. Buses will run twice daily to the conference hotel and back.

The FJB has also planned a NAPVI barbecue and campfire at Bloomfield Friday evening. Those staying at the conference hotel will have bus transportation out to the camp and back for this event.

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO "VIEW" THE FIELD

What's on the way in, what's on the way out and everything in between will be discussed at the historic four-day gathering of those in the field of vision (including parents), as the American Foundation for the Blind and the Foundation for the Junior Blind of Los Angeles join forces to sponsor "Vision Loss: Everybody's Business," to be at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

On the agenda will be workshops, lunch and learn sessions on a wide variety of topics, important affiliate conferences, nightly entertainment and limitless opportunities for information sharing and networking. In addition, participants will be able to see all of the latest technology at the Exhibition Center during the Symposium as national companies and agencies present their vast array of materials available.

Keynote speakers for the event will be *Roots* Author Alex Haley, *Future Shock* Author Alvin Toffler and Biovision Advocate Dr. D. Nico Spinelli.

CALL NAPVI TOLL-FREE!

Toll-free numbers at NAPVI are: 1-800-225-0227 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) --U.S. and 1-800-222-1537 (wait for tone, then dial 994610) (in Texas). NAPVI's main telephone number is 512-323-5710.



SOME NEAR-SITE ALTERNATIVES

For those who do not wish to stay at the camp and are willing to pay more for accommodations and provide for their own transportation the following sites are within 10 miles and are rated two stars or better by the American Automobile Association. The list was compiled by Ed Del Castillo, president of the California Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, (CAPVI).

Within four miles:

The Wilshire Crest Inn (2 blocks from Beverly Hills), \$68 and up; 213-936-5131; California 1-800-232-7378.

Best Western Sunset Plaza (on Sunset Blvd.), \$52 and up; 1-800-421-3652 (U.S.) and 1-800-252-0645 (CA).

Beverly Laurel Motor Hotel, \$54 and up; 213-651-2441.

Brentwood Motor Inn (near Bel Air and UCLA), \$60 and up; 213-476-6255.

Dunes Motor Hotel/Wilshire (near Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills), \$45 and up; 213-938-3616.

Airport

Airport Century Inn (with airport shuttle), \$49 and up; 1-800-421-3939.

Airport Plaza Inn (airport shuttle) \$45 and up; 1-800-854-3380 (US) and 1-800-432-7045 (CA).

Best Western Airpark Hotel (airport shuttle), 1-800-528-1234.

L.A.X. Hotel (airport shuttle), \$47 and up; 1-800-421-5781 (US) or 1-800-854-1349 (CA).

Quality Inn Airport, \$60 and up, 213-645-2200.

Within 10 miles, Between the Airport and Beverly Hills:

Best Western Executive Motor Inn (Mid-Wilshire), \$50 and up. 1-800-528-1234 or 1-800-331-8618 (CA).

Best Western Hollywood, \$49 and up, 1-800-528-1234.

Best Western Royal Palace Hotel, \$55 and up; 1-800-528-1234.

Comfort Inn, \$64 and up; 1-800-228-5150.

Hotel Hollywood, \$65 and up; 213-462-5400.

Hotel Celebrity, \$65 and up; 1-800-222-7090 (CA) or 213-850-6464.

Hollywood Highland Motel, \$42 and up, 213-851-3000.

Sea Lodge of Marina Del Rey, \$65, 213-821-2557.

ABOUT NAPVI COMMITTEES

A unique new committee was formed at the annual Board of Directors meeting in Austin in November. Named the "Early Intervention Committee," the group was formed to assist parents of newly diagnosed visually impaired children to adjust to parenting a child with special needs; to promote parental awareness of legislation affecting the needs of young visually impaired children; to inform and coordinate activities for NAPVI conferences relating to early intervention and to promote NAPVI to various agencies that serve young visually impaired children and their parents.

Committee chairperson is Christopher Cook, 1639 Dunraven Drive, Knoxville, TN 37922, 615-691-4179. Others on the committee are Dr. Lee Robinson, Hadley School for the Blind, Winnetka, IL 60093, 312-446-8111; Kate Aldrich, 1445 Baird Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95405, 707-539-9603 and Tom Auletta, 6750 Deer Springs, Keystone Heights, FL 32656, 904-473-3185. This committee lends itself especially to networking, so please contact one or all of these NAPVI members if your interests and concerns lie in the early intervention area.

The tentative agenda for the Scholarship Committee at the annual Board of Directors meeting called for the setting of criteria for two NAPVI scholarships, but before its weekend work was done, the Committee had both criteria and seed money for four scholarships in all.

The four scholarships will include: (1) a scholarship to be given to a visually impaired student; (2) a scholarship to be given to an individual currently enrolled in the teacher preparation programs for VI; (3) a scholarship to be given to an individual with a multisensory deficit or multiple impairment and (4) a scholarship program to be used by the gifted visually impaired child.

Criteria has been set forth for most of the scholarships, but the immediate goal is to raise sufficient monies to award the stipends. Those donating to the Scholarship Fund may wish to designate which one of these funds their monies should be applied toward.

Chairman of the Scholarship Committee is Henry Hedgecock, 2895 State Road, Box 426, Rd-2, Rt. 49, Blossvale, NY 13308, 315-245-2377. Others on the committee are Norma Lucas, 832 Shannon Road, Girard, OH 44420, 216-539-4649 and Susan Fraser-Perrotta, 27 Sherman Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920, 401-943-8946.



EYE CONDITIONS BOOK PLANNED

NAPVI is currently compiling a handbook describing eye conditions and diseases that affect children. The current list includes aniridia, glaucoma, amblyopia, cataracts, lens rupture, toxoplasmosis, histoplasmosis, diaretinitis, coloboma, retinal/macular degeneration, retinoblastoma, Retinopathy of prematurity (RLF), retinal detachment, cortical blindness, optic atrophy, nystagmus, lebers amaurosis, Marfan's syndrome, albinism, achromatopsia, anophthalmia and microphthalmia.

If there are other conditions you wish to have covered, please write them down with some basic information about the problem. Listing some adaptations that have helped your child make the best use of any residual vision will also be a help. Send your letters to Kate Aldrich, 1445 Baird Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 or call 707-539-9605.

BOARD RATIFIES BYLAWS CHANGES

The following changes to the NAPVI bylaws were unanimously approved during the annual Board of Directors meeting:

Article III, (Officers) Section 2, p. 8: Officers elected by the voting membership of the NAPVI shall assume office at the termination of the annual meeting held in the odd numbered years and shall serve for a period of four years or until the next election. [The period of service had previously been two years.] **The president may not occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms** was added to the same paragraph. ["No individual may, however, occupy the same office for more than two consecutive terms" was deleted from the bylaws].

Article III, (Officers) Section 8, p. 11: With the President or other proper officer or agent authorized by the Board of Directors, the **Treasurer** shall sign such grant applications, contracts, solicitations for donations or other instruments binding upon the NAPVI which the Board of Directors has by specific or general action authorized to be executed. [The word "treasurer" was substituted for "Secretary" in the November action.]

Article II, (Board of Directors) Section 2, p. 2: Individuals serving as directors by virtue of their election to the offices described in Article III of these bylaws shall serve as directors for terms concurrent with their service in the NAPVI offices described in Article III. Those directors representing the six NAPVI organizational regions and the director serving as a member at large shall serve a **four (4) year term**. [The period of service had previously been three years.]

BY-MAIL BALLOTING CONDUCTED DURING SEPTEMBER

Taking office recently at the annual Board of Directors meeting in Austin, Texas are President Eileen Hudson of Beloit, WI; Vice President Gail Granados of Norwich, CT; Secretary Jeanie Flack of Harbor City, CA and Treasurer Henry Hedgecock of Blossvale, NY.

The new officers were elected during September by-mail balloting. Outgoing officers were Elaine Patton Moses, Austin, TX, president and Judith Stotland, North Hollywood, CA, secretary. Both received commemorative plaques detailing their years of service to the board. Mrs. Hudson had served a term as vice-president and Mr. Hedgecock has been treasurer since NAPVI's inception in 1980.

Dr. Alana Zambone, national consultant in early childhood and multiple impairments at the American Foundation for the Blind, read a charge of service to the newly elected officers.

Also assuming new positions on the Board were Susan Fraser-Perrotta of Cranston, RI, who was elected to the Region I (Eastern Seaboard) position held by Diana Cuthbertson of Westfield, NJ and Christopher Cook of Knoxville, TN, who was elected to the member-at-large position which Mrs. Granados had occupied. Mrs. Cuthbertson also received a plaque in honor of her years of service on the NAPVI Board.

Roger and Kathy Allely, Eagle River, Alaska, noted on their membership form that they are interested in a networking of other families who have children with retinopathy of prematurity. You may write to them at P.O. Box 773333, Eagle River, AK 99577 or call 907-694-4185. They are curious as to what has caused the disease in other children and just want a parent contact, too. It's rather isolated in Alaska. Roger and Kathy are hoping to hear from you.

SHARING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS WORLDWIDE

By Maria E. Lopez, President, International Friendly Circle of the Blind (Reprinted from *The Braille Forum*, November-December 1986.)

In my trips to Mexico, I have witnessed the dire need of most blind people there. They have very limited or no educational or employment opportunities, no school materials, no financial support from the government and limited library services. As in Mexico, there are other countries where blind people live in these same conditions and where needy blind students struggle to obtain an education. For this reason, the International Friendly Circle of the Blind (IFCB) was founded. Its purpose is to assist needy blind students with educational materials, especially in developing countries and with joint participation from all of us, this project will undoubtedly function successfully.

Collecting and distributing school materials is the function of the IFCB. The basic idea is that interested persons participate by sharing no-longer-used school materials with needy blind students in developing countries. Such donated items should be sent to the IFCB to be distributed among these students, who urgently need braille paper, slates and styluses, brailers, abacuses, recorders, canes and so on. The main concept is that the collecting be nationwide, but the distribution international.

In addition, procuring sponsorships for needy blind students in developing countries will enhance the IFCB's project. Although the IFCB does not have the financial means to aid needy blind students in other countries, I believe that with the active involvement of its members, we can procure sponsorships for such students from individuals and other organizations interested in the betterment of blind people everywhere. To obtain such sponsorships, disseminating information about the IFCB is necessary.

You may obtain more information about the International Friendly Circle of the Blind by writing 3925 E. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90023 or phoning 213-268-4526.

WHAT IS MEMBER APATHY?

(Ed. Note: This article is reprinted from a newsletter for the Michigan Self-Help Clearinghouse. While its message was not intentionally directed to those in parent groups, it may provide some insight.)

People often leave groups when they feel their problems are solved and this may be perceived as member apathy. Keep in mind that bonding, which is the development of identification and support among group members, may take at least eight weeks (several meetings?) to occur and if members leave before the potential bonding process is complete, groups may not realize their full potential. Cliques may also form from bonding and newcomers may be excluded from this "inner circle." Of course, it is usually not judged as evasive if you want to contact a member and find out, in a non-threatening way, why they've left a group. Another explanation for member apathy may be that the goals and purposes of the group are not addressing the needs of the members and should be re-examined.

March 24-25, DC/Maryland AER annual conference, Carousel Hotel, Ocean City, MD. "Sailing Together: Improving Understanding and Awareness Within Education and Rehabilitation." For further information, contact Jim Deremeik, MD School for the Blind, 3501 Taylor Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21236. 301-444-5000, ext.276.



AN OPEN LETTER FROM A PARENT IN INDIA

(The following letter was sent to NAPVI by T. Anand, C/o M. Elangovan, No.6, Saraswathepman, Behind Giparati Girls High School, ULSOOR, Bangalore S 60008, Karnataka India. It was mailed in braille and was transcribed by NAPVI associate member.--ed.)

I'm Anand, leader of a group working for the upliftment of the center of the handicapped, who are totally neglected, economically oppressed, underprivileged and socially, educationally backward class of people and these include: more particularly, the visually impaired, the deaf-blind and other sections of the handicapped also.

We are a group of 15-20 members drawn from all sections. We basically look into the literacy (pre-primary and the primary education). We teach them crafts, weaving and caning. As we are very much a beginning, efforts are to induct many other courses useful into this stream. We request you to grant us your expertise, your rich experiences, a brochure on this is appreciated. You could also tell us as to how these people can be employed (as it is a must for one's livelihood) after they finish their studies. We have very many things to discuss with you. Many of us are parents and thus we know the very many problems and difficulties, pains and sorrows faced by these people. Perhaps, parents could only stretch the depth of their imagination (towards the sufferings and hardships of these poor and unfortunate people).

I am a totally blind parent. Would you be able to fund us in a small way? We too have very many to face. You can help us either in cash or in kind. Well, our immediate needs are: a tape recorder, cassettes, braille paper, mobility aids, brailled watches etc. Your funding would go a long way for the upliftment, the considerable improvement, and the enlightenment of these brethren. Nevertheless, we are tapping our own resources also.

Our dream is to see that these people live a fuller and a meaningful life. Please reply to us in braille. Waiting for your early reply.

With love,
Tpv Anand

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Editor..... Mary Lou Wilkinson
Assistant Editor..... Keitha Robinson
Advertising Director..... Dr. John M. Crandell

LEAST RESTRICTIVE: ENVIRONMENT/INVOLVEMENT

By Dr. Kay Ferrell

(Ed. Note: The following talk was presented at NAPVI's Valley Forge Seminar in August.)

I want to talk about **Least Restrictive Environment** for children and **Least Restrictive Involvement** for parents. **Least Restrictive Environment** is an educational environment that will best meet your child's needs at a particular point in time. **Least Restrictive Involvement** is the environment that allows you as parents to best meet your child's needs while you're still meeting your own.

When we talk about **Least Restrictive Environment** we're talking about a continuum of placements. We'll focus on what's considered least restrictive to most restrictive for the child. **Least restrictive** is always in the regular classroom without any added assistance. The next step up would be a regular classroom with an itinerant teacher who works with your child. Then it's the regular classroom with a resource room where the child leaves the classroom for awhile to get the help he/she needs. Next is the special education classroom still in the regular school. The child still has some integration with kids that are non-handicapped, but most of his time is spent in the special ed classroom. The next step up from that might be a special education class in a regular school where there is no integration. Then there is the special education class in a separate school which still might be in the same district. Then there is the day school program where the child attends a residential school but goes home daily. When you go a little higher, you find the residential school, where the child is placed all the time. At the opposite end of the continuum from the regular classroom is home/bound instruction which is not integrated.

What you see happening in this **Least Restrictive Environment** model is that the cycle is constantly changing as the child moves from being with non-handicapped children completely to being with all handicapped children. The other thing that's constantly changing is the amount of time the child is receiving special services for his education. At one end of the continuum the amount of unique instruction the child is being given is minimal--at the other it is maximum. Children should be able to move in and out of every one of these steps.

When you look at the **Least Restrictive Involvement** model, you start at one end with no meaningful involvement of parents at all--there are some parents who do not want to be involved. The next step might be "Obligatory" involvement. The parent goes to the meeting, signs the IEP, but that's all. The next step is the "Interested" stage, getting a little more involved, always attending parent group meetings. In the next step, the "Curious" stage, the parent starts to ask questions, to take notes, to take their files with them (to meetings). The 'Emerging' step is next, when the parent not only takes a leadership position but also starts to give support to other parents in the group. Next is the "Spokesperson" stage, when the parents start to speak out and become more active advocates. (Notice in each stage as we go along, parents get more and more involved.) Parents reach the "Public Educator" stage when they contact legislators, organize letter-writing campaigns, generally trying to become more advocacy oriented. They speak on behalf of other parents, not just on individual issues. The "National Leadership" stage is the last in the continuum; it is where parents who become involved in groups like NAPVI have broadened the scope of their involvement and more and more often take on roles for other parents; and we see their circle of influence broadening.

Even as children should be able to move between the categories of **Least Restrictive Environment** parents should be able to move between the categories of **Least Restrictive Involvement**. There will be times when parents don't want to have as much involvement in public and with other parents. You've got to be able to give parents the flexibility to move in and out of the **Least Restrictive Involvement** model at the times when it's best for them. Both **Least Restrictive Environment** and **Least Restrictive Involvement** are constantly changing, dynamic models. They don't stay stagnant; rather, they follow goals and objectives, both for the child and the parent/family. The steps in both models should be viewed non-judgmentally. Where you are at any point in that continuum should be based in fact, not fiction. You don't make up things; you don't decide whether your child should be here or there; when it comes to parent involvement you don't decide that's all that's available because that's all that has been offered anymore than you do when your child's placement is being considered.

Both **Least Restrictive Environment** and **Least Restrictive Involvement** should be monitored closely to avoid abuse and stagnation for happy kids and for happy families.

Least Restrictive Involvement means what you can do, what you can handle, without causing strain and without causing failure or feelings of failure. You worry about the same thing with kids, whether they're going to experience failure in the placement that they're in. You should worry about the same things for yourself as the parent. If you're starting to experience failure, then you need to re-adjust your schedule. Remember that **Least Restrictive Involvement** is not set in stone--it's a negotiable item just like **Least Restrictive Environment** is negotiable and it is up for at least annual revision. You may commit yourself to national leadership positions, for example, but you're not committing yourself forever. You do it for a period of time, and then you go back and perhaps work more on the local level.

I would like to leave you with some suggestions.

1. If you like what's going on in the child's educational placement, say so. Try not to focus so much on the negative. We tend to do that--in meetings especially, because of the frustrations we feel and vocalize when we get together.

2. Think about what's education and what's related services. Try to focus in on what's essential educational services to meet your child's unique learning needs because of visual impairment and what related services are needed to help your child benefit from the educational system.

3. Never underestimate the power of parents. You know what you can do as one--but when you act together you have incredible impact.

4. Don't pick your battles to join a fight or make a point based on whether or not you think you'll win. Choose your battle to speak or not to speak out on an issue because it's the right thing to do. The end result is what is important.

Some of you might not totally embrace Don Quixote's mission in *The Impossible Dream* but on those days when you are battling with all those windmills, think of the words from that Broadway play:

To dream the impossible dream,
To fight the unbeatable foe,
To try when your arms are too weary
To reach the unreachable star.

After this parent meeting, I'll bet you feel you want to touch that star and I'll bet that one day you will!

87.1 RESOLUTION ON LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS appropriately credentialed specialists must be provided to meet the unique educational needs of visually impaired children; and

WHEREAS these learning and skill acquisition needs require specialized curricula that is supplemental to but does not supplant the traditional curriculum; and

WHEREAS the least restrictive environment is not solely determined by opportunities for interaction with sighted peers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NAPVI reaffirms interpretation of "Least Restrictive Environment" as a range of options including but not limited to resource rooms, regular classrooms, out-of-home placements and special day classes, any of which may be the appropriate placement for a specific child at a specific time.

LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT: KNOWING ONE WHEN YOU SEE IT

With school already open and your child already placed, you may be asking yourself if he/she is in a 'least restrictive environment' (LRE). The following is an excerpt from the *News Digest*, a newsletter for the National Information Center for Handicapped Children and Youth (NICHCY) a free information service for parents, advocates, educators and others. Authorized by Congress and funded through the U.S. Department of Education, NICHCY's mission is to ensure the availability of information regarding the Education of the Handicapped Act (EHA) as amended by PL 98-199. Any attempt on the part of the editors of *AWARENESS* to "condense" this information would be woefully inadequate and we recommend that you request the edition in its entirety by writing to NICHCY, Box 1492, Washington, D.C. 20013. The articles deal with the idea of LRE in special education, placement, quality of programs, parental approaches to bringing about change and parental awareness of goals for change in the educational system.

"Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) is a term that was first used in court decisions and legislation which came about as part of a national movement to include handicapped persons in the mainstream of community life. Action was needed to remedy a widespread practice of exclusion which existed prior to the 1970s. At that time, many handicapped persons were confined in large institutions where they received minimal services. Others remained at home with their families, but were excluded from the public education system as children and were denied meaningful employment as adults. Even those mildly handicapped persons who received a public education often were placed in environments segregated from their peers.

"Such exclusion is now disappearing; attitudes are changing; and excellent integration programs have been developed and implemented in communities across the nation. However, many parents of handicapped children are faced with the need to advocate for their child's right to be included "to the maximum extent appropriate" in everyday life.

"The kind of environment in which children grow up has a powerful impact upon their development. This is true not only of the home environment, but also the school and other environments in which children function."

It's Renewal Time!

These thoughts on 'Least Restrictive Environment' are assembled, not to point out preferences in placement, but rather to highlight options...and perhaps in support of the parental right to be an active member of the team which decides what is 'least restrictive' for a particular child.

Please remember that only resolutions and policies endorsed by the Board of Directors reflect an official NAPVI stance on any given issue. Individuals signing opinions speak from their own perspectives and not from an organizational viewpoint. *AWARENESS* welcomes comments on a variety of subjects and seeks to be a forum for individual expression within its space and printing constraints. All such items must be signed, with address and phone number given.

AN INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW

The law requires that our children be educated in the least restrictive environment. The spirit of the law addresses the need of our children to be integrated with typical peers and to learn how to fully participate in our community life. Children should have the necessary supports to be successful in this effort. In our daughter's case, the services of a full time aide is needed to enable her to learn. Our community has invested in her. One day she will grow up, hold a job and vote for people who believe in people with disabilities. She will be a provider of support to others by her example.

-- Diana Cuthbertson
Mother of Katie, age 7
Westfield, New Jersey

A 'MOST ENABLING ENVIRONMENT'

A special education program should be designed to offer the affected child an optimum opportunity to learn, to progress, to develop and to reach full potential. If we accept this premise then we also should accept the premise that a special education program should take place in an atmosphere that is most conducive to realizing our goal. There is ample research to demonstrate that children show the greatest educational gain in such an atmosphere. This can be referred to as the 'most enabling environment.'

We espouse that what we are seeking is "what's best for kids." We are taught to think positively and to be optimistic. We believe it's possible to offer our students (at Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped) an educational setting that will provide them with the best opportunity for educational gain. This would mean we are offering them a "most enabling environment."

We may wish to consider this as being paramount in developing educational placements. If the M-Team evaluation accurately reflects the child's needs, and if the IEP is truly structured to attend to those needs, then we have the obligation to recommend program placement and development that will best accomplish our goal. This is a "most enabling environment," no matter where the actual site may be located.

-- Superintendent Bill English
Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped





"APPROPRIATE" IS REAL KEY

By Dr. John Crandell, Executive Director, NAPVI

When P.L. 94-142 was introduced into Congress in 1975, its purpose was to ensure that all handicapped children receive "an appropriate, free education." Embedded in the law was the term "least restrictive alternative." This wording was intended to facilitate the de-institutionalization of the mentally retarded, mentally ill and prisoners. The institutions were considered to be little more than warehouses.

The concept of "least restrictive environment" came from this broader model which attempted to bring all individuals into the mainstream of society by removing barriers to that full participation. It was adopted by educators to assist in the education of handicapped children. The penal system, for example, considered the most 'restrictive' placement as solitary confinement; maximum security, medium security, minimum security, half-way houses and parole were steps toward full integration into society.

Unfortunately, the concept of "least restrictive environment" has become the focal point of P.L. 94-142. It proposes that the environment is the most important component of the educational enterprise, when, in fact, the learner, the child, should be that focus. Therefore, it seems to me, that the concept of "appropriate" should be stressed. What is most "appropriate" for a particular child at a particular time in his/her life is, in reality the "least restrictive alternative." If mobility skills are most needed, then a placement which can best provide necessary training should be considered. If daily-living skills are weak, a placement where these can be best taught is least restrictive.

Many terms have been used to describe the least restrictive environment, including integration, infusion, a school for all, "the regular classroom initiative," or mainstreaming. Certainly blind and visually impaired children should be educated so as to increase their ability to become part of the broader society. This should be considered as a goal, however, rather than as the means to achieve the goal. As Ira Isco once observed, with respect to cerebral palsied children, "eventually everyone should be able to dance on the same ballroom floor, but that does not mean that everyone has to learn to dance on the main ballroom floor."

In reality, what is often meant by "least restrictive alternative" is "least expensive" alternative. Those alternatives which are most costly are being systematically eliminated in favor of alternatives which, although inappropriate, are not so expensive. What parents must insist upon for their visually impaired child is an array of services or alternatives which can provide for a lifetime of progress. This will maximize their child's chances for meaningful integration into society.

QUESTIONING P.L. 89-313

By Kathleen Megivern, writing in *The Braille Forum*, May-June, 1987.

We have reported in previous issues of *The Braille Forum* on efforts by the Reagan Administration and others to redefine the principle of "least restrictive environment" as it appears in the Education of All Handicapped Children Act. Their infamous "Manual 10" was but one example of attempts to make it virtually impossible to place handicapped children in residential facilities. (See "Does 'Least Restrictive Environment' Mean Mandatory Mainstreaming?", *The Braille Forum*, April 1986). Their dogmatic view that "mainstreaming" should be the only option for every child despite individual needs has led to other efforts as well.

The latest is a direct attack on an important source of funding for residential schools, P.L. 89-313. This law is part of Chapter 1 of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act, and it provides for Federal money to state-operated programs for handicapped children. The Administration's proposal would phase out this program entirely, transferring all funding to Public Law 94-142. Luckily, that proposal seems to have very little support in Washington either among special education advocates or on Capitol Hill.

Another effort to at least limit funding for P.L. 89-313 was a proposed amendment from Congressman Steve Bartlett (R., TX). This amendment would have required that a certain percentage of the money intended for state-operated programs would have to be set aside for "transitioning" handicapped children out of residential facilities and into public school settings.

The underlying presumption seems to be that children are "locked up" in these residential schools and need help to free themselves. The reality is quite the contrary. In many of the schools for the blind, for instance, a large percentage of their admissions are referrals from public schools where the children have been unable to succeed. To require that some of the money intended to serve these children be set aside to send them back into the very programs which have previously been unable to meet their needs would be counterproductive, to say the least.

Neither the Bartlett amendment nor the Administration proposal was adopted by the House Committee on Education and Labor when it recently considered the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act. The Committee did adopt some amendments from Representatives Jeffords (R., VT) and Goodling (R., PA) relating to administrative changes in P.L. 89-313, but preserving its integrity as a separately-funded program, with no requirement of set-asides.

The bill is expected to come to the floor of the House of Representatives for a vote before Memorial Day, and in the meantime, action is beginning in the Senate on this same issue. It seems clear that we have not heard the last from the proponents of "mandatory mainstreaming."

(Ed. Note: The bill was still in committee as of November 15 and is not expected to be reported out anytime soon.)

PROGRESS IS THE IMPORTANT ISSUE

I want my child in the program where he can make the most progress--and this may or may not be a mainstreamed setting.

-- Joan Johnson
Springfield, MO
Mother of Jeff, 9

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

The products and services listed within this edition of AWARENESS are for your information. NAPVI does not recommend one item over another and strives to be fair in its listing of resources available to those who work with visually impaired children. We invite anyone who produces a resource of interest in the field to share information about that item with the NAPVI membership. Our SHOPPING BAG, HI-TECH TALK and other resource columns highlight new, unique, free and/or inexpensive items for the visually impaired. NAPVI reserves the right to publish information about such items at its discretion. NAPVI accepts paid advertising for AWARENESS and those ads are placed on pages marked "advertising." Contact our national office for a rate card.

ON THE BOOKSHELF

LARGE-PRINT BOOK CLUB: Doubleday & Co.'s large-print home library, the nation's only large print book club, is now in its second year. Bestsellers in fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, how-tos and others are available in full-length, hardcover editions that cost no more than the regular print versions. The books carry the seal of approval of the National Association for the Visually Handicapped (NAVH) for their readability, inking and margins. Write to Doubleday Large Print Home Library, Customer Service Center, 501 Franklin Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530 or call 1-800-343-4300 (ask for operator 355).

GUILDA'S CHRISTMAS BOOK: Guilda Bear takes Christmas seriously with a decorated Christmas tree, ornaments that you can make and color, Santa Claus ready to come down the chimney, a Christmas card, Santa's smiling face and a manger. There are directions for coloring, if you like. Contact the Guild for the Blind, 180 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-236-8569 for a complete list of books available, as well as ordering information.

THE SEEING STICK by Jane Yole, 1977, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York. Autographed "for the children at Adams County Library to know that true vision begins in the heart"--1991. This is a modern story in the vein of a great classic folktale. The emperor of Peking has a blind daughter. An old man teaches Hwei Ming, the blind princess, to use her fingers to see.

HOW TO THRIVE, NOT JUST SURVIVE: A Guide to Developing Independent Life Skills for Blind and Visually Impaired Children and Youth is designed for parents, houseparents and teachers of visually impaired children in mainstream and residential settings. The book addresses such specific questions as how to help a child learn self-help skills, function independently and become accepted as an equal in society. This book, edited by Rose-Marie Swallow and Kathleen Mary Huebner, is \$9 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling, from Publications and Information Services, American Foundation for the Blind, 15 W. 16th St., New York, NY 10011.

WHAT WILL I TELL THE CHILDREN? is a new brochure written by Jacque Bell and Linda Esterling because a child's interpretation of death is not the same as an adult's. General guidelines are provided for discussing the death of a family member or friend with a child. Information describes the child's understanding of death and behaviors which may be exhibited during infancy, school age and adolescence. References are provided. Distributed free of charge by the University of Nebraska Medical Center, 42nd and Dewey Avenue, Omaha, NE 68105; 402-559-4353.

RAMSES II: "TOUCH TO SEE"

Ramses II, an exhibit replete with "touch to see" tours for blind and visually handicapped persons and a workshop for children, is in Denver, CO at the Museum of Natural History until March 31, 1988.

The display contains a stunning collection of Egyptian treasures, including items of gold, silver, bronze, alabaster and granite. The Egyptian Government hails the exhibit as more significant than that of King Tut.

For more information about "Touch to see" tours or the workshop, contact Parent Advocates for Visually Impaired Children of Colorado (303-428-5581). There is an admission charge for everyone who views the exhibit.

Learn Which Toys to Buy, Free pamphlet: Consumer's Guide For Selecting Suitable Toys: Which Toy for Which Child? Birth-5 or 6-12., Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

CAMP DIRECTORY PLANNED

The American Foundation for the Blind is preparing a National Camp Directory for Visually Handicapped Children and is requesting parent help in tracking down such camps in your area.

Your list, which should include the name, address and phone number of these camps, should be sent to Irene Ludwig, National Consultant on Recreation and Leisure, AFB, 15 W. 16th Street, New York, NY 10011. The camps will be contacted for inclusion in the directory.

WAX AWAY! THE SKI SEASON'S HERE!

Camp Wapanacki in Vermont has a schedule of activities for blind and visually impaired persons for the 1987-88 fall and winter season, extending through March 13. Contact the camp at RR 1, Box 1086, Hardwick, VT 05843 (802-472-6612) or the New York Institute, 999 Pelham Parkway, Bronx, NY 10468 (212-519-7000) for details.

Ski for Light schedules skiing events annually. Contact Ms. Judy Dixon, 1104 N. Stafford St., Arlington, VA 22201 (703-276-9191).

The **United States Association of Blind Athletes** sponsors a variety of sports events, including ski activities, for blind persons of all ages. Contact Arthur Copeland, President, USABA, 55 West California Ave., Beach Haven Park, NJ 08008, (609-492-1017).

LAW SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

Fordham Law School has established the Amy Reiss Blind Student Scholarship to assist needy blind students in obtaining a juris doctor degree from its school. The recipient will receive a three-year full tuition scholarship.

Fordham Law School, located at Lincoln Center, 140 West 62nd St., New York, NY 10023 (212-841-5189) has resource programs for its visually impaired students, including acclimating them to the physical environment of the school, coordination of such classroom requirements as tape recording classes, taking notes in braille, and examination requirements. It offers the use of a Kurzweil Reading machine, IBM PC with Talking Westlaw Computer Base and a dictating mask to v.i. students.

PARENT PERSPECTIVE: UNDERSTANDING THE GRASSROOTS

By Terry Leo

(This is the third in a series of articles written by NAPVI Member Terry Leo, a teacher of the visually impaired in Garland, TX. The other articles have dealt with accessing legislative information from Washington, D.C. and communicating with state and local governmental officials.)

Just as faith without works is dead, opinion without action is the same. Somebody once said, "If you don't vote, you can't complain." When election returns come in, it's a shame to only see about 20 percent of eligible persons voting. That's aristocracy (rule by a small, privileged class). The decisions in this country are being made by a majority of the people who take the time to vote!

Registering to vote, being informed about the candidates and amendments and getting to the polls on election day is very important; but you can do even more. Grassroots participation is open to everyone. You don't have to have a political background or any experience. Most of the methods are learned simply by doing.

The true "grassroots" in any state are at the precinct level. Don't let the term throw you off. A precinct is merely a geographical area defined by a voting place. In urban areas it is usually about 10 square blocks. Even in rural areas, precincts are not geographically large.

Precinct meetings are held once every two years during the time when political parties have their primary elections. These meetings are of extreme importance, but are usually very poorly attended. If you show up, you may be the only one there. More likely, five to ten people will attend. Even in the biggest precincts, less than 20 people are likely to be there. In Texas, there is no formal registration for a party (check with your state). You just decide to vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary, right at your regular voting place (simply get into the Democratic or Republican line). After the polls close, each party has a precinct meeting at the polling place. The Democrats go into one room and the Republicans go into another room. The meeting usually lasts less than an hour.

GETTING YOURSELF ELECTED

Two very important things happen at this meeting. First, you elect delegates to the county/district convention. The number of delegates from your precinct is decided by the population of your precinct. Since the meeting is poorly attended, you will probably not have any problem being elected as a delegate; in fact, if you do not nominate yourself, the people there will probably nominate you. If you are the only person to show up, simply call that particular political headquarters and tell them that you would like to be the precinct chairperson. It would be a good idea to call the headquarters before the primary to find out if they have a precinct chairperson before the meeting. You may then call that chairperson, asking him/her to help you get involved and to support a particular resolution regarding the visually impaired that you may have. If he/she will not support you, you may nominate yourself or have an advocate nominate you for precinct chairperson at the precinct meeting. Some of the best advocates to bring with you are visually impaired registered voters in your community. In addition to having more "for" votes for your resolution, use of such advocates will make it more difficult for the others to vote against it when the persons the particular resolution will directly affect are there among them. This will also give the delegates their chance to have a positive experience with a visually impaired person.

After electing a precinct chairperson and the delegates to the county/district convention, you will elect a delegate to the state convention. If you want to go to the state convention, but did



not get elected as the state convention delegate, you will have an opportunity to go to the Nominations Committee of the county/district convention and ask that you be put on the list of alternate delegates. If you are high on the list, chances are you, too, will get to go to the state convention and be a voting delegate on the floor. When you go to the Nominations Committee to ask them to be "bumped up" the list of alternate delegates, let them know why you want to attend, what you have done to help their political party, candidates or your community.

The precinct chairperson is the lowest elected official, but one of the most important. You are eligible to attend and vote at your county/district executive meeting. These meetings are usually held once a month in your area. These meetings will enable you to know the activities in your party locally and, as you become more knowledgeable, you will begin to have a say in the recruitment and encouragement of good candidates, locally and statewide.

PASSING YOUR RESOLUTIONS

The second important thing done at the precinct meeting is that you will pass resolutions to be considered by your county/district resolutions committee. Get all the advocates in your area to attend their precinct meetings and bring forth the same resolutions. The more precincts that pass your resolutions, the more impact your resolutions will have on the resolutions committee. If the resolutions committee adopts your resolution, it will be voted on at your county/district convention. (Attendance at the convention only requires a few hours on Saturday once every two years.) If your resolutions are passed at your county/district convention, your resolutions go on to the state convention. If passed by the delegates, it becomes part of the platform of that political party. A platform is important because it is a statement of what issues, concerns and goals the political party will support into becoming a law.

Just because this is important does not mean it is difficult. On the contrary, it is very easy because since so few know about precinct meetings, almost no one attends. In some precincts and counties, however, there may be those who have decided that they would prefer not to have you as a part of what they consider to be "their" political party. They, of course, want you to vote for their candidate, but don't want you to have a voice in choosing candidates, resolutions or delegates. **Don't be bullied!** Don't let anyone discourage you; eventually, you will have a positive impact on the political parties and local, state and even national government. There is nothing more important for you to do, with respect to civil government in your state, than to try to get yourself elected as a delegate to the county/district convention and try to pass some good resolutions.

A sample of a resolution for you to follow in developing your own resolutions appears on the following page. Make sure that you bring three copies to your precinct meeting.

Precinct # _____
County, _____

PUBLIC FACILITY USE RESOLUTION RESOLUTION # _____

WHEREAS, the use of public facilities by our visually impaired citizens is a matter of highest concern, and WHEREAS, an equal use of the public facilities by the visually impaired would mean providing such things as braille or large print programs and/or maps, the opportunity to actually observe the media presented for visually impaired persons in order for the visually impaired to acquire the same benefits culturally and educationally, just as other sighted citizens would; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of this precinct:

1. Strongly urge the Texas Legislature to (amend or enact) the non-discrimination of handicapped citizens law (Section ____ of the ____ code.)
2. Encourage all citizens and public facility owners to make the above adaptations in the use of public facilities, in order that society encourages participation from all its citizens.
3. Firmly oppose all direct and indirect discrimination against any citizen whether they be handicapped or non-handicapped.

The foregoing resolution was properly submitted in triplicate and adopted by the delegates of the above referenced precinct, at its meeting after the closing of the polls on _____, 198____, by a vote of ____ FOR and ____ AGAINST.

ATTEST:

Precinct Secretary

Precinct Chairperson

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Everything I ever wanted to tell my child's teacher: a short list excerpted from the Valley Forge NAPVI Parent Seminar: "Walk in my shoes for two weeks." "Don't expect less of my child because of his visual impairment." "I need your acceptance, not your pity."

"When I hear someone say, 'Well, one person can't make a difference, I think that's just not true; one person can make a difference.'" -- Alan Dinsmore, Legislative Liaison, American Foundation for the Blind.

"It's rewarding to have people comment about what you're doing." -- Henry Hedgecock, NAPVI Treasurer.

LVE

LVE (Low Vision Editor) and LVE23 are convenient, simple effective editors for visually impaired persons. These run on the TRS-80 Model 1,3 or 4 computers with disk (not for other computers). Read, create, edit or print text. Each package costs \$20 or \$25 total for both together. Four (4) letter sizes in LVE and a large variety of display modes are designed to meet any visual need. The typing position stays stationary while typed text moves away. Work-alike LVE23 gives smaller magnification, non graphic, called double width, suitable for minor vision impairment. For more information write to Donald W. Ady, 56 Oak Ridge Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901.

DEALING WITH SCHOOL PERSONNEL

(Reprinted from an article published in PERCEIVE, the newsletter of Colorado's Parent Advocates for Visually Impaired Children. The article originally appeared in Mainstream, produced by the Southwestern Oil Coalition for Handicapped Children Parent Information Center.)

Trust your intuition. Common sense is required for you to be an effective advocate for your child.

Review all of your child's records. Request a copy for your files at home. Keep well-organized records at home. Include school records, important medical data, copies of letters written to you, to the school and copies of correspondence and/or reports from other professionals.

Follow up telephone calls with a short summary letter. Example: "It is my understanding from our telephone conversation of (give date) that points 1,2 and 3 will happen, etc." Keep a copy for your files.

Take notes at meetings or while talking with school personnel over the phone. Get names, title, dates and a brief summary of what was said by whom. Get your facts straight! Deal with the facts, supportive printed literature, letters from professionals who have dealt with your child.

Be thorough with your suggestions, thinking and evidence. Know exactly what you want and why. It may help to make a list of your concerns, suggestions, evidence, etc. so you can cover all points in an organized manner.

Become specific in your requests and responses. Rather than say, "My child isn't learning," develop statements such as, "My child can't read his/her fourth grade reader."

Be realistic about your expectations and requests. Demanding is not negotiating.

Remember, it is important to be positive and commend professionals when progress is made. Sharing this good news with the supervisor is recommended, also.

Attend all meetings and conferences dealing with your child's educational needs. Have your spouse attend whenever possible especially when a major decision is being made.

When deciding on a appropriate program, observe each program being considered.

VISUAL ACUITY/VISUAL FIELD:

A DEFINITION OF TERMS

Two terms that cause some confusion when discussing visual impairment are visual acuity and visual field.

Visual acuity describes the detail with which a visually impaired person sees in comparison to a person with normal vision. This is expressed as a numeric ratio. A person with 20/20 vision has perfect visual acuity.

What does it mean if an individual has 20/100 vision? The 20 indicates what a visually impaired person sees at 20 feet away in comparison to what a person with normal vision sees at 100 feet away. When the term "legal blindness" is used, it means a person has 20/200 vision in the best eye with the best correction.

Visual field defines how great an area a person can see. A person with normal vision usually sees everything within a half circle (or 180 degrees). The person with low vision sees within a 20-degree field or less. Visual field loss restricts either central or peripheral vision.

(Reprinted from *The Viewer*, February, 1987.)

BEATING THE WALLFLOWER BLUES

By Dana Walker, 341 Eagerton Rd., Montgomery, AL 36116

(Ed. Note: School is more than academics--it's friends, parties, etc. The author has some suggestions to help you become a "regular" on the social scene. Reprinted from Lifeprints, 1986, pp. 20-22).

Someone once asked me what blind people did at parties. Being young and naive, I replied that it depended on the person. After more experience with parties, I figured out the truth.

At gatherings of sighted people, a blind person is usually given a plate of chips and a glass of cola. Then the hostess parks him in an out-of-the-way corner. There he is usually ignored until his hostess notices that his glass needs refilling.

When people do make their way into the corner to talk to him, the subject of blindness comes up. The blind person may end up demonstrating how to write braille. This is fine, except that after people have seen what their own name looks like in braille, they drift away. The blind person is again alone with his chips and cola.

Without good mobility skills, there's not much you can do in a strange house about being parked in a corner, except to latch onto some sighted person and follow him or her around all evening. There's a lot you can do, however, to keep people from drifting away after they've begun a conversation with you. Become adept at good conversation--it's really quite easy.

A few "don'ts" first--don't gossip. You can talk about movie stars, but don't talk about people you know. Even if you've heard a juicy story about the girl in math class, repeating the story will only make the other person wonder what you say about him behind his back.

Another warning: don't try to entertain the other person by telling one joke after another. A joke now and then is fine, but few people can do a Johnny Carson monologue well.

Most important, don't talk about yourself. If someone asks you a question, answer it and then change the subject. Keeping up with current events will give you an endless source of topics, from politics to local football rivalries. Reading a mass-circulation magazine or listening to the newspaper on a radio reading service gives you access to the same information as sighted people.

Remember always that people love to hear themselves talk. The real secret to good conversation is listening. If you can keep turning the conversation back to the other person, he'll be flattered at your interest and will keep talking to you.

One way to keep him talking is to keep asking questions. Don't be nosy or personal, but after he's asked where you're from, ask where he's from. Then ask something about the town, even "Is it very different from here?" If he mentions that he's a radio ham, ask how he got started. Keep going from there. He may wind up explaining the advantages of a broad-banded rig--never mind that you're not really interested--look interested. Thinking of questions that are relevant is surprisingly easy. It's a trick I learned from a girl who managed to be popular although she was taller than most of the basketball team.

Another way to keep conversation going is to ask for opinions on topical issues. Then you follow up with what Bible salesmen call the "Magic Question." With an expression of earnest inquiry, ask, "What exactly do you mean?" The other person is hooked and will talk and talk.

This has an interesting side effect. Other people start making their way to your corner to just see what is so interesting. You end up talking to far more people than you otherwise would have. If you just listen attentively and ask good questions, you will get the reputation of being a good conversationalist. You may even become known as the life of the party. One thing is for sure--no more lonely evenings with chips and cola for you.

THE FEELING STATES OF GRIEF: OLD AND NEW

(Ed. Note: Many, if not most, parents of handicapped children go through a series of feelings of grief, when they first learn their child is handicapped. Although the following is from the Association for Retarded Citizens, the connotations of the phases are equally true for parents of the visually impaired. As you identify with the issues, remember that the "reframe" is what it really means and don't let folks with the "common opinions" get you down.)

The issue: Denial

Common Opinion: Indicative of irresponsibility, destructiveness, ignorance, counter-productivity, etc. The issue, reframed: Denial buys time to discover personal strengths and obtain help and information from others.

The issue: Anxiety

Common Opinion: Indicative of hysteria, neurosis, weakness, dependency, etc. The issue, reframed: Anxiety mobilizes and focuses energies needed to cope with demands imposed by the loss, as well as the energies needed to change attitudes and values.

The issue: Depression

Common opinion: Indicative of serious psychological problems, non productive,, a self-indulgent and dangerously debilitating feeling, etc.

The issue, reframed: Depression is the mechanism which enables an individual to work through issues and definitions of competence, value, capability, and potency in the context of loss.

The issue: Anger

Common opinion: Indicative of immaturity, poor self-control, a destructive attitude, etc. The issue, reframed: Anger is the mechanism that enables an individual to re-assess and re-structure beliefs concerning fairness and justice in the context of loss.

The issue: Guilt

Common opinion: Indicative of superstition, masochism, primitive thinking, etc.

The issue, reframed: Guilt is the mechanism that enables a person to re-examine and re-define one's sense of meaning, importance and responsibility within the context of loss.

HINT: LEARNING BODY PARTS

(Ed. Note: This hint comes from the newsletter for the Center for Visually Impaired, Atlanta, GA.)

To help the young child learn body parts and enjoy music at the same time, use the tune to "This Is the Way We Wash Our Clothes" and make up your own words, such as "This is the way we touch our head (tap head), touch our head, touch our head. This is the way we touch our head, so early in the morning.

Continue with "tummy," "ankle," "elbow," "hip," "shoulder," "nose," "lips," forehead," "knuckles," etc. (Don't be afraid to branch out to lesser known parts as the familiar become more familiar.)

Variations: "This is the way we stomp our feet...", "...clap our hands...", "...click our fingers..."

Added learning: change "So early in the morning" to "So early Monday morning..." the "Tuesday" etc. for a series of seven activities.

Singing is good for language--it's also good for moods and attitudes. Have fun!

TO: Mary Lou Wilkinson, Editor

FROM: Carol Crebs, Parent Consultant
Missouri School for the Blind
8734 Delmar Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63124
314/4332-8611

Within the past year there was a request for newsletter sharing. I have misplaced the article but am sending two newsletters with two articles which I included because I feel parents of the handicapped to be effective need: 1) to develop problem solving skills and gain knowledge of the process; and 2) to be challenged to think about "why" and "how" to keep their lives in balance.

I have taught Problem Solving Courses in St. Louis to parents of deaf/blind children, women's groups, Junior League, etc. and see such a need for parents to fine-tune their thinking and skills to get their needs met and to understand the emotional roadblocks they put in their path. (I have a 22 year old deaf/blind multiple handicapped son and understand the struggles and frustrations of parents.)

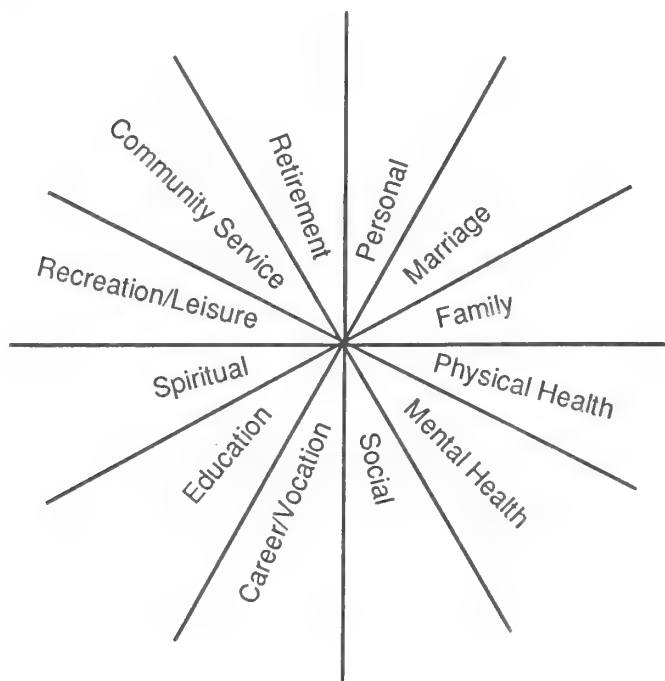
I hope these two articles will be helpful.

(Ed. Note: We'll run Ms. Creb's other article in the First Quarter, 1988 edition)

IS YOUR LIFE BALANCED?

By Carol Crebs, Parent Consultant, MO School for the Blind

We need to think about our lives at times to keep them in balance. So many stresses and demands work against the balanced life.



Look at your big picture. Have you set goals in each area?

What goals have been set for each area? What goals have been left out, underemphasized, overemphasized? If one or more areas are neglected, a person's life can become unbalanced.

When lives are in balance and goals set, the results can be fulfillment and happiness. These thoughts and feelings can permeate a family, resulting in positivity and strong family leadership.

PARENT BULLETIN BOARD: BRAILLE MUSIC

TO: Kay McKnight, 4800 Hidden Oaks
Arlington, TX 76017

FROM: Sally Hering, Assistant to the Dean
Hadley School for the Blind
P.O. Box 299, Winnetka, IL 60093
312/446-8111

I am writing to you after seeing your letter in the *Parent Bulletin Board* in the recent NAPVI AWARENESS about music braille.

First of all, Hadley School offers a course in Braille Music Notation. If you are not familiar with the School, it provides a complete array of educational courses in several areas, all adapted for home study. I enclose a catalog.

The American Printing House for the Blind also carries several books, available in print and braille, covering various phases of braille music notation.

Copies of braille music for almost all instruments and voices are available from the National Braille Association, 1290 University Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607. They recently received (from the Library of Congress) the permanent loan of almost 300 titles to add to their already extensive collection.

I hope this information will be of some value to you.

FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

Dr. Mae Davidow, teacher emeritus of Overbrook School for the Blind, became NAPVI's 1987 recipient of the Outstanding Contribution Award, which was presented during the August NAPVI Seminar at Valley Forge by NAPVI officers Eileen Hudson and Henry Hedgecock.

Dr. Davidow, who was herself a student at Overbrook, has been a teacher for 35 years. In addition, she is a current gold medalist in swimming of the New Mexico Games sponsored by the United States Association of Blind Athletes.

In a Keynote Address offered to Seminar participants, Dr. Davidow said: "I would like to share with you the four keys that have opened doors for me. Several years ago, when I presented the commencement address at my alma mater, Overbrook School for the Blind, I shared with them the four keys or four four-letter words that would open doors for them. You will find that these words can do the same for you, for your children and for NAPVI.

The first is **give**: give of yourself, give to others. The second is **help**: the more you give and the more you help, the richer your life will be. The third is **love**: love others, love unselfishly. The fourth is **work**: work with love and love your work.

"All of our NAPVI members, no matter where they might be at this time, are living these four four-letter words. That is why NAPVI is the great and wonderful organization that it is. Let us continue by giving, helping, loving and working so that the visually impaired and sighted children of the members of NAPVI will be remembered for the contributions they will make to their community, the state, the nation and the world."

Success Stories Begin With MPRINT From VTEK



- ▼ MPRINT is the innovative translator that turns braille into print. FAST. It's the perfect tool for blind people who work side-by-side with the sighted. At school or at the office, MPRINT helps users get ahead and stay ahead.
- ▼ MPRINT attaches to any standard Perkins brailler and lets blind people produce well-formatted, error-free inkprint documents, using any computer printer. It's simple enough for a child to use, yet sophisticated enough to please even the most demanding corporate professional. Easy to set up, too.
- ▼ MPRINT is flexible — fits almost any need. MPRINT is affordable — fits almost any budget. What are you waiting for? Call us for a demonstration today!



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TWO TOOLS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED BABIES

Dozens of suggestions on how to create a stimulating environment for your visually impaired child are presented in a video cassette and book offered by the American Printing House for the Blind (APH). These materials, designed to help children from birth to two, were developed with the aid of over 200 parents, educators, and medical professionals.

Playing the Crucial Role in Your Child's Development is a ten minute VHS video cassette which suggests ways of helping a child build skills such as reaching, grasping, midline coordination, and walking.

Beginnings: A Practical Guide for Parents and Teachers of Visually Impaired Babies is a seventy-one page book which describes how the best possible learning environment can be created for your child. It also contains advice for parents on keeping a positive attitude, working with doctors, finding good educational facilities, and more.

For **FREE** information, please write to **APH / Dept. V107 / P.O. Box 6085 / Louisville, KY 40206-0085**. Or phone **(502) 895-2405**.



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The National Association for Parents of
the Visually Impaired

- SUPPORT
- INFORMATION
- SERVICE

NAPVI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dear NAPVI President:

Please send my membership for the 198____ year.
(Expires December 31)

Check One:

- ☐ Parents and Families—\$10.00
Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

My child's eye condition is: _____

- ☐ Community Groups & Agencies: \$25.00
☐ Associate: \$15.00 ☐ Sponsoring: \$200-\$1,000
☐ Supporting: \$50-\$200 ☐ Patron: Over \$1,000

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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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Enclosed is my check in U.S. funds in the amount of \$ _____.

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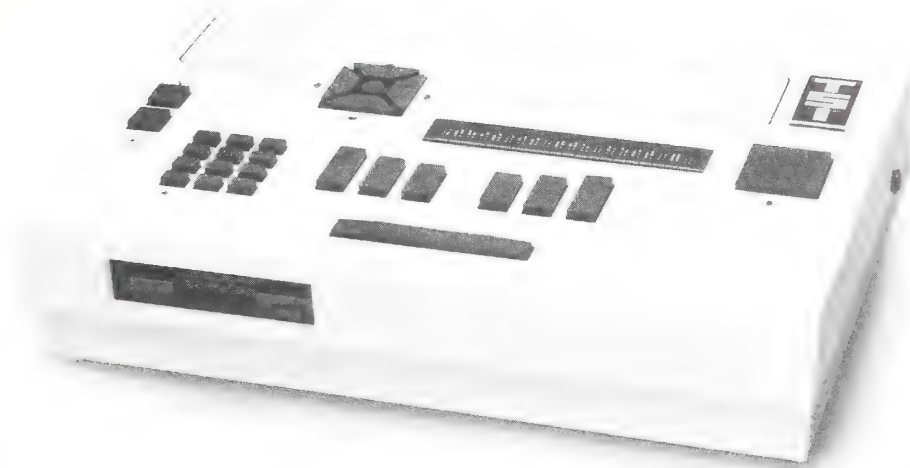
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HELPING OTHERS TO ACCEPT JESSICA

By Bonnie Markle

(Mrs. Markle is president of Central Maryland Parents of the Visually Impaired, 429 Haverhill Rd., Joppa, MD 21085 (301-679-4764), a new NAPVI affiliate. Jessica is 5-years old and attends the Maryland School for the Blind. She was born 14-weeks prematurely, weighing 1 lb. 10 ozs. at birth. She has Retinopathy of Prematurity and is developmentally delayed.)

Having a daughter who is visually impaired and developmentally delayed is a unique experience. Friends and relatives are always amazed at how much she can do and how much I must do. After I talk to them about the ups and downs of raising a handicapped child, they really start to appreciate what Jessica and I do on a daily basis.

When Jessica was an infant, I always tried to make her an important part of our family. I never tried to hide her, make excuses for her behaviors, or act embarrassed. In stores--oh, the horror stories I've heard about stranger's comments in grocery stores--I've always been aware of people looking and wondering what is wrong with her. I am comfortable explaining to anyone that my child is severely visually impaired, why she sometimes pokes her eyes and why she repeats everything you ask her. Her six-year-old brother's classmates have all met Jessica at class parties and after school. I've explained to them about Jessica's eyes several times and they still ask, "but can she see?"

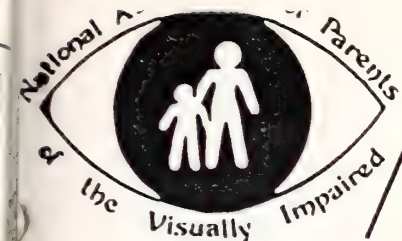
The local high school has a group of students who want to work with handicapped children. I took Jessica to one of the meetings and explained everything. They love her and come to work with her two times a week. The education they are receiving when working with Jessica cannot be measured in grades.

Last fall, I worked with a photographer until we got just the right smile and pose for Christmas photos. The photographer learned more about taking pictures in that 30-minute session than any photography course could ever teach her, plus she learned to accept a cute little 3-year-old visually impaired child. My friends--even the most fastidious ones--don't mind Jessica touching their walls and feeling their wallpaper.

By patiently showing and explaining how to work with Jessica, they are all comfortable with her. A few minutes of explanation and question answering hopefully will add up to a happier and easier time for Jessica.

Getting comfortable with blindness and other disabilities is not always easy for everyone. By meeting other parents of visually impaired children and by exposing myself to other blind children and adults, I have become confident and comfortable with my child. I urge parents to seek out other parents or blind adult to talk to, preferably one with a positive attitude.

Being involved as much as possible with your child while not excluding your own friends, interests and other children is also important. When you are comfortable and accepting of your child, others will be, too.



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AWARENESS

SUMMER 1984

School is "just around the corner" and all parents, but especially parents of special needs children, must be prepared. Since the I.E.P. (individual education plan) is an integral part of placing each child into an appropriate program, it is timely to review the Handicapped Children's Act of 1975 and I.E.P. particulars. This information was extracted from Take Charge! (NAPVI, 1980); information provided by the Parent Teachers Organization of the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children and other listed sources. We, at NAPVI, hope this will be helpful to you.

WHAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP)?

An IEP is a written statement (the basis of your child's entire learning program) developed for your child at a yearly conference (meeting). It should and must be planned at a time convenient for the parents and should include:

1. a representative of the school district or intermediate unit.
2. the child's teacher.
3. the child when appropriate; or an 8 x 10 glossy picture will help focus the reason for the meeting on the child.
4. the child's parents.
5. others as appropriate.

HOW CAN PARENTS PREPARE FOR THE IEP MEETING?

First and foremost, *know* what goals you want your child to achieve, and the services needed to attain these goals (i.e., speech therapy, occupational and physical therapy, psychological counseling). Transportation is a required service and must appear on the cover sheet of the IEP.

Perhaps you even wonder if the child is in the right classroom or educational setting. In the Summer 1982 edition of AWARENESS Dr. Kay Ferrell of the American Foundation for the Blind discussed placement, how to decide if it is right for your child and listing some questions you should ask in determining if this is correct placement. For a reprint, request "Is This The Right Placement?" from the NAPVI/National Office, P.O. Box 180806, Austin, TX 78718. □□□

PARENTS SHOULD PLAN FOR IEP MEETINGS, TOO!

FOR THE IEP MEETING:

1. Take a friend/advocate who can support you.
2. Record the meeting (notes or tape recording). You have a right to tape this session.
3. Have your own list of goals for your child before you go into the meeting.
4. Stay calm; do not lose your temper, but be assertive in your goals for your child.
5. Ask lots of questions. If you don't understand what the professionals are saying, ask questions. (Don't be afraid to ask what you think others want explained too, but are too intimidated). Be sure that everything is translated into plain, understandable language.
6. Do not let politeness and compliments distract from your understanding of what's best for your child.
7. Rehearse your plans before the meeting. □□□

WHAT SHOULD THE IEP CONTAIN?

It must include the following items:

- a statement of the present level of the child's educational performance.
- short-term and long-term educational goals for the child.
- a statement of the services to be provided to the child, including a description of all special education and related services required to meet the child's unique needs.
- a description of the extent to which the child will be able to participate in regular education programs.
- the dates on which services are expected to begin and end.
- the measures used to determine the success of the child's program. □□□

WHAT THE LAWS SAY

PUBLIC LAW 94-142:

A comprehensive law setting forth the fundamental rights necessary to ensure that *all* handicapped children receive the free, appropriate public education (in the least restrictive and most normal environment possible) to which they are entitled.

SECTION 504:

Requires local school districts receiving federal funds of any kind to provide an appropriate education to all handicapped children within their jurisdiction. And presently, nearly every school district in the country receives some kind of federal funds.

REPRINTS

(Once again, if you're not sure of what the professionals are saying, ask questions. Your understanding of your child's diagnosis will be one of the most valuable tools in your ability to judge the value of a program — and to stand up for an appropriate one.

You can bring tape recorders to conferences to help you remember what was said. You can visit classrooms and talk to teachers and other parents of handicapped children. Then make up your mind.

PLEASE NOTE: Even if the parents approved the IEP at the conference, they may revoke this acceptance and may request a new meeting if they feel a change is needed in the IEP.

AND AFTER THE MEETING?

Your job is not completed when the IEP is signed and the program commenced. Progress toward short-term objectives and annual goals should be monitored. Ongoing contact with the special education teacher, any therapists, and any regular classroom teachers involved in a program is critical. Short-term objectives in the IEP should be open to change based upon the child's experience and progress in the program. It should be evident to all parties involved that the program for the child must be consistently applied, both at school and home, in order to be effective.

If parents have the feeling, either at the IEP conference or immediately thereafter, that the district is not willing to provide an appropriate program for their child, then they should take preliminary steps before deciding to make a Due Process Appeal.

Preliminary Steps Include:

- 1) Review the child's educational goal in the light of the school district's evaluation material and decide if the goals can be realistically established.
 - 2) Evaluate whether your position is essential to an appropriate program and not a false issue, such as categorization of dollars available.
 - 3) Attempt to identify specific areas of disagreement in the child's program.
- If, indeed, a conflict does exist, alternative methods of approaching the district should be used to settle the dispute.

—From Building an Alliance for Children: Parents and Professionals, edited by Marie Peters

ONE FINAL NOTE . . .

It is important to emphasize that it is up to the parent to ensure that the child receives the benefit of the laws. Legal requirements for education and the procedures for compliance are there, but unless the parent is an active participant, he/she cannot be sure the child is receiving the full benefit of the law.

Most states have an advocacy organization as well as a legal aid office and Lawyer Referral Office. The NAPVI national office has a list of each state's primary advocacy organization, available upon request. School districts are required to supply guidelines for a Due Process Appeal.

Parents must regard themselves as the longlasting resource and the only consistent persons who continually have the child's interests at heart throughout their lifetime.

—Lee Robinson, past-president, NAPVI



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AWARENESS

WINTER 1982

THE PARENT AS 'HOPEFUL SKEPTIC'

by Lee Robinson, President

To watch computers translate from print to braille and still other computers read print aloud seems almost like magic. Closed circuit television for enlarging print, recorded encyclopedias, low-vision lenses and other technical aids — all make it seem that sooner or later great inventions will make blind children see. In fact, science is experimenting with electronic implants that seem to produce rudimentary images in the brain.

What does all this mean for our children?

With breakthroughs in science happening almost all the time, maybe the answer will be found. Perhaps medicine will find ways to prevent all kinds of eye diseases and repair all sorts of injuries. Perhaps someday there will be some device which will provide all of the dimension and accuracy seen by the natural eye. Maybe someday...

But now there is no single device or treatment that helps everyone see better or learn better or perform a job better. There is no single solution to everyone's sight problem.

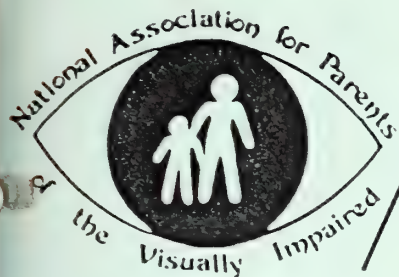
When we see articles about new inventions for the blind in the newspapers, magazines or on TV, we need to realize that such stories are often exaggerated by the media or that those 'breakthroughs' may still be very experimental. Other considerations should also be made before too much enthusiasm is built: Is it better to provide expensive artificial aids or to develop the use of other abilities to accomplish tasks? Is the aid meant for educational or vocational purposes? Will the device bring dependence or independence? What skills will it take to use the device successfully?

The point is that each new invention or discovery will provide assistance for someone. However, each requires thoughtful consideration before use. Many aids go unused after the novelty wears off. Listening as a way of learning, for example, may if used to excess, leave a child unable to read without recordings. Untested methods or treatments may prove damaging.

As parents, we must encourage the development of new devices and treatments without rushing recklessly after expensive solutions that do not fit our child's needs. We must always support efforts to cure but be able to accept the fact that the discovery in question may help someone else's child instead of our own. We must always be hopeful skeptics.

Perhaps NAPVI can help. If you have heard of a product, discovery, or aid which you'd like more information about, let us know. We will help you find information or people who can answer your concerns. As we get answers we will be able to share them with many parents.

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AWARENESS

FALL 1983

CHOOSING TOYS FOR CHRISTMAS

(or any other time)

The toy shelves are brimming over with toys of all kinds and it is frequently difficult for parents to decide what is *the* toy that will meet their criteria for a worthwhile toy and still be enjoyed by their child. The following guidelines and suggestions, we hope, will help you in the annual dilemma of choosing toys for your child for Christmas.

General guidelines in choosing toys for a blind child:

1. Try to choose toys that can be played with alone or with somebody else.
2. Try to find toys that are easy enough for the child to play with and yet challenging enough so that he is learning something.
3. The child should be able to figure out what to do with the toy and should find satisfaction in being able to play with it correctly.
4. It should involve his other senses.

The following lists of toys are only suggestions as there are MANY to choose from and many that are equally as acceptable:

Toys for Vision: brightly colored toys, picture books, shiny toys, toys with lights.

Toys for Hearing: talking phone, musical ball, jingle bell ball, pull toy with music, noisy cars, talking dolls, see-n-say, tape recorder, toys with horns or bells, musical instruments, xylophone, rattle.

Toys for Body Image: dress up clothes, hoppity hop, swing or tire swing, bar to swing on, tandem bike, tricycle or bicycle, rollerskates, doll or Barbie doll, indoor or outdoor slide.

Self-Help Toys: teething necklace, spoon, dish, training cup, toys with zippers, snaps, and buttons, lace boot for tying.

Toys for Touching: beads for stringing, clay or play doh, legos or blocks, texture puzzles, peg board, finger paints, shaving cream, hammer and peg bench, shape sorter, shape puzzles, sewing cards, scratch-n-sniff books, cone with graduated rings, small cage that child can put different objects into.

*Guidelines and list came from a South Carolina agency.

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AWARENESS

SPRING 1982

PARENT TO PARENT

By Jeanie Flack, Billings, MT
NAPVI Board of Directors

I was sitting here on the porch looking at my pretty yellow flowers coming up, thinking about how pretty the sky looked today, when I saw a little girl with blond hair pass by in a red dress. I thought how cute she looked — and then I wondered if I would have paid that much attention to her if she had been wearing two different colored socks and shoes. The answer was "yes," but in a much more negative way. It's only natural that we look at something "pretty" in a positive way and the "not so pretty" in a negative way.

I've noticed that sometimes parents think that, because the blind child can't see, it really doesn't matter how he looks. We all know that being blind increases the stares our children get. But if they're clean and neat, with a nice tan and brown plaid shirt on top of dark brown corduroy pants instead of mismatched shirt and pants, they will receive much less negative feedback.

Learning about dressing and grooming does not come naturally to any child; it has to be taught. The blind child should be taught how important it is to wear coordinated clothes and socks; to be sure he or she is neat and clean. Just because he can't see himself doesn't mean others won't. After all, when we dress up it generally isn't to see ourselves; it's so others will see how nice we look. Vain maybe, but true.

There are tags you can get in braille for clothes; there is also a method of using small pins on clothes to teach the small child to sort out colors. For more information on this, please write to me in care of NAPVI.

Positive input, such as "Gee, you sure look great today, Tommy; I like your nice blue shirt!" really helps to keep a child interested in his appearance. And always talk about colors — because his world is full of color even though he can't see them. In his sighted world he will have to know all about color!

THE PARENT'S HIGHEST HURDLE: Letting him try

Spring is finally here and with warmer weather the joggers and the bikers will be out in full force.

My son Kenny will be one of those bikers. Some might say "My son can't do that, he's blind." Well Kenny is blind, too, and he does run and ride a bike, swim and wrestle. When he was four-years-old, he learned how to run along side of me with a rope between us. Now, at 10, he can run a mile.

When he said he wanted to learn how to ride a bike, I was scared out of my mind. I didn't let him know that, though. There we were — him half on, half off the bike and me running along side — him falling and me crying. But he learned how to ride it; not without a few bruises of course, but then, most children get a few of those in the process of learning.

So visually impaired and blind children can ride a bike or swim or wrestle, run and jump. Don't hold your child back from building his athletic abilities anymore than you would from braille or math just because he is blind. It might have to be taught in a little different way than with a sighted person but blindness is a loss of sight, not the ability to use any other body part. It is important in life to have a strong, flexible body.

Dad, get your boy out in the yard and teach him to throw that ball. There are specially adapted balls that have bells inside them so your child can hear when they come toward him.

Another thing that really improves coordination is gymnastics. It builds good posture and strong muscles — something blind children don't always have. Start your child into some exercise and see if he doesn't feel better. And, hey, you could use some, too!

NAPVI — A miracle worker!

I was asked the other day what NAPVI has done for me, both as a board member and as a parent of two blind children.

Well, it really has changed a lot of my feelings and made me more positive.

I suppose the thing that has really helped the most is seeing some of the other members' children. Some are the same age as my 10-year-old Kenny. Until I met their children, I'd never seen a blind child the same age. I can't really explain the feeling this gave me, a feeling of knowing there are other children just like Kenny. It felt so good just knowing this. I know now that we, as parents of visually impaired children, all share the same feelings; that we are not alone.

I have also met some adult visually impaired people at some of the workshops and this has given me great hope for my children; adults who give speeches, hold down good jobs, go to college and who are very happily married.

I've learned a great deal about P.L. 94-142 and other laws. This in turn will help out my children. I have come to realize that standing up for your child is right, not wrong. I have learned that teachers aren't always right but they're not always wrong, either.

I have learned to deal with my children more positively through the workshops I've attended.

Most of all, though, I've learned that we do need to do something like help with a fund drive or work with a parent group to give us some positive things to think about. I have learned that I can't possibly do everything for my handicapped children; I have to face this honestly and accept help where I couldn't have before.

I have had the chance to meet some of the dearest people in the country.

NAPVI is a miracle worker — what more can I say!

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P.O. Box 180806
Austin, TX 78718
512/459-6651

Please send the following items (specify amount required)

stationary

envelopes

reimbursement forms

workshop folders (yellow)

membership brochures (green)

NAPVI Fact Sheet (blue)

Publication List (ivory)

Affiliation Packet

Bylaws

Board Biographical Sketch

AWARENESS*

Take Charge! (On Consignment)

Parents To The Rescue (On Consignment)

How To Pack 'Em In: (On Consignment)

Library Guide (On Consignment)

*Although AWARENESS is at present distributed by circulation, we do make one-time shipments of large quantities of the newsletters we have on hand whenever anyone is planning a large parent meeting, mail-out or some other project. It's also possible for us to make reprints of any single article within AWARENESS for distribution.

NOTE: Parcel post rates are lowest but there are faster ways of receiving the supplies you need if necessary. Please use the following lines to describe the "Hurry" you are in to receive any of the above items and specify means of delivery.

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Please send the following items (specify amount required)

- _____ stationary
- _____ envelopes
- _____ reimbursement forms
- _____ workshop folders (yellow)
- _____ membership brochures (green)
- _____ NAPVI Fact Sheet (blue)
- _____ Publication List (ivory)
- _____ Affiliation Packet
- _____ Bylaws
- _____ Board Biographical Sketch
- _____ AWARENESS*
- _____ Take Charge! (On Consignment)
- _____ Parents To The Rescue (On Consignment)
- _____ How To Pack 'Em In: (On Consignment)
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| Publications | books, brochures, etc. |
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| Postage | |
| Outside Services | secretarial, typesetting, photocopying contracted speakers, etc. |
| Workshop Expenses | registrations for meetings, luncheons |
| Supplies | paper, markers, posters, etc. |
| Miscellaneous | any expense incurred for the organization not covered by the above categories. |

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